

Research Vita of Dr. W. Paul Williamson

(Updated 8/3/21)



EDUCATION

University of Tennessee at Knoxville – Ph.D., 1999

Specialty: Experimental/Social Psychology (with training in both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies)

Dissertation: The Experience of Religious Serpent Handling: A Phenomenological Study
(Archived among Rare Books in Special Collections at Hodges Library, University of Tennessee at Knoxville)

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga – M.Ed., 1995

Major: Counseling

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga – B.S., 1992

Major: Psychology

EXPERIENCE

2011 – pres Professor of Psychology, Henderson State University, AR

2009 Award of Tenure, Henderson State University, AR

2006 – 2011 Associate Professor of Psychology, Henderson State University, AR

2003 – 2006 Assistant Professor of Psychology, Henderson State University, AR

2000 – 2003 Assistant Professor of Psychology, Sterling College, KS

1999 – 2000 Adjunct Faculty, Cleveland State Community College, TN

1997 – 2000 Adjunct Faculty, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

AFFILIATIONS

Alpha Society, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

American Psychological Association, Division 36

Appalachian Studies Association

International Association for the Psychology of Religion

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

Southwestern Psychological Association

COURSES TAUGHT

- Abnormal psychology
- Behavioral science practicum
- Counseling theories
- Cross-cultural psychology
- Developmental psychology
- General psychology
- History and philosophy of psychology
- Humanistic psychology
- Personality
- Problems of adolescence
- Psychological testing
- Psychology of religion
- Social psychology
- Statistics

EDITORIAL WORD

- 2002 – 2005 Editor, *American Psychological Association Division 36: Society for Psychology of Religion and Spirituality Newsletter*
- 2012 – pres Editorial Board Member, *Archive for the Psychology of Religion*
- 2016 – 2020 Editorial Board Member, *Pastoral Psychology*
- 2016 – pres Editorial Board Member, *Research in the Social Scientific Study of Religion*
- 2017 – pres Editorial Board Member, *Spiritual Psychology and Counseling*
- 2018 – pres Associate Editor, *Brill Research Perspectives series: Religion and Psychology*
- 2018 – pres Book Review Editor, *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*

RESEARCH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Awards

- Distinguished Service Award* (2013). American Psychological Association, Division 36 (Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality).
- Margaret Gorman Early Career Award* (2001), American Psychological Association, Division 36 (Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality).
- Science Alliance in Psychology Award for Excellence in Scholarship* (1999). University of Tennessee at Knoxville.
- Faculty Research Grants* (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2013, 2017). Henderson State University.
- Science Alliance Awards* (1996, 1997, 1998), Department of Psychology, University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Archive Work

- Founder of *Religious Serpent Handling Research Archive*, Huie Library, Henderson State University (2008).
- Co-founder of *Hood-Williamson Research Archives for the Holiness Serpent Handling Sects*, Lupton Library, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2000).

Publications: Books
(Chronological order beginning with most recent)

- Williamson, W. P., & Kabogan, S. (under contract). *A critical review of empirical research on fundamentalism*. Brill.
- Williamson, W. P. (2020). *Conjectures and controversy in the study of fundamentalism*. Brill. (ISBN: 9789004427747)
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2016). *Psychology and spiritual transformation in a substance abuse program: The Lazarus Project*. Lexington Books. (ISBN: 9780739193075)
- Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (2008). *Them that believe: The power and meaning of Christian serpent handling*. University of California Press. (ISBN: 9780520255876)
- Hood, R. W., Jr., Hill, P. C., & Williamson, W. P. (2005). *The psychology of religious fundamentalism*. New York: Guilford Press. (ISBN: 1593851502)
- Williamson, W. P. (1999/2001/2002/2004). *Foundations: Concise history, polity and doctrine of the Church of God of Prophecy*. White Wing Publishing House. (ISBN: 1889505218)

Publications: Books Translated into Foreign Languages
(Chronological order beginning with most recent)

- Hood, R. W., Jr., Hill, P. C., & Williamson, W. P. (2009). *Psicologia del fondamentalismo religioso*. Rome, Italy: Firera & Liuzzo Group.
- Williamson, W. P. (2003). *Fondements: Abrégé de l'histoire, du gouvernement et de la doctrine de l'Église de Dieu de la Prophétie*. Cleveland, TN: White Wing Publishing House. (ISBN: 1-889505-43-9)
- Williamson, W. P. (2002). *Curso Fundamental: Una presentación concisa de la historia, gobierno y doctrina de la Iglesia de Dios de la Profecía*. Cleveland, TN: Casa de Publicaciones Ala Blanca. (ISBN: 1-889505-41-2)

Publications: Book Chapters & Encyclopedia Articles
(Chronological order beginning with most recent)

- Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (2020). An indigenous Appalachian faith tradition. In A. Dueck (Ed.), *Indigenous psychology of spirituality: In my beginning is my end*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (2012). Ambiguity in the signs as an antidote to the impediment of Godly love in primitive and progressive Pentecostals. In M. T. Lee & A. Yong (Eds.), *Godly love: Impediments and possibilities* (pp.21-40). Lexington Books.
- Williamson, W. P. (2010). Appalachian mountain religion. In C. H. Lippy & P. W. Williams (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of religion in America*. CQ Press (Sage Publications).
- Williamson, W. P., & Pollio, H. R. (2004). The phenomenology of religious serpent handling: A rationale and thematic study of extemporaneous sermons. In R. Warms, R. J. McGee, & J. Garber (Eds.), *Sacred realms: Essays in religion, belief and society* (pp.

396-403). Oxford University Press.

Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (2001). An empirical test of the unity thesis: A structure of mystical descriptors on various faith samples. In R. W. Hood, Jr. (Ed.), *Dimensions of mystical experiences: Empirical studies and psychological links* (pp. 32-47). Rodopi.

Publications: Journal Articles
(Chronological order beginning with most recent)

Williamson, W. P. & Silver, C. F. (2021). In the face of adversity: A phenomenological study among Bible-believing Christians. *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*, 31(3), 189-204.

Williamson, W. P., Silver, C. F., & Streib, H. (Eds.). (2021). Special issue in honor of Ralph W. Hood, Jr. [Special issue]. *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*, 31(3), 153-224.

Williamson, W. P., Silver, C. F., & Streib, H. (2021). Introduction to special issue in honor of Ralph W. Hood, Jr. *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*, 31(3), 153-155.

Williamson, W. P., & Ahmad, A. (2019). Invited article: The Bi-Directional Spirituality Scale: Construction and initial evidence for validity. *Spiritual Psychology and Counseling*. (published online)

Williamson, W. P., Hood, R. W., Jr., & Chen, Z. J. (2018). The God-mysticism Scale: A brief version. *Pastoral Psychology*. doi.org/10.1007/s11089-018-0856-7 (published online; forthcoming in print)

Williamson, W. P. (2018). The experience of Muslim prayer: A phenomenological investigation. *Pastoral Psychology*, 67, 547-562. DOI: 10.1007/s11089-018-0831-3

Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2018). The Lazarus Project: A response to Jindra. *Pastoral Psychology*, 67, 453-460. DOI: 10.1007/s11089-018-0827-z

Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2015). Religious serpent handling and community relations. *Journal on Prevention and Intervention in the Community*, 43, 186-198. DOI: 10.1080/10852352.2014.973278.

Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2015). Poison-drinking in obedience to the faith: A phenomenological study of the experience. *Mental Health, Religion, and Culture*, 18, 199-208. DOI: 10.1080/13674676.2015.1033685.

Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2015). The role of mentoring in spiritual transformation: A faith-based approach to recovery from substance abuse. *Pastoral Psychology*, 64, 135-152. DOI: 10.1007/s11089-013-0558-0.

Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (2014). A case of the intratextual model of fundamentalism: Serpent handlers and Mark 16:17-18. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 33(1), 58-69.

Williamson, W. P., & Bishop, J., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2014). Religious fundamentalism and racial prejudice: A comparison of implicit and explicit approaches. *Mental Health, Religion, and Culture*, 17, 847-859. DOI: 10.1080/13674676.2014.935729.

- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2014). Religious fundamentalism and perceived threat: A report from an experimental study. *Mental Health, Religion, and Culture, 17*, 520-528. DOI: 10.1080/13674676.2013.857297.
- Silver, C., Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (2013). The differential evaluation of religious risk rituals involving serpents in two cultures. *Studia Religiologica, 46*(1), 7-21. DOI: 10.4467/20844077SR.13.001.12.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2013). Spiritual transformation: A phenomenological study among recovering substance abusers. *Pastoral Psychology, 62*, 889-906. DOI: 10.1007/s11089-012-0502-8.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2012). The Lazarus Project: A longitudinal study of spiritual transformation among substance abusers. *Mental Health, Religion, and Culture, 15*, 611-635.
- Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (2011). Near-death experience from serpent bites in religious settings. *Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion, 7*(7), 1-19.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2011). Spirit baptism: A phenomenological study of religious experience. *Mental Health, Religion, and Culture, 14*, 543-559.
- Williamson, W. P., Hood, R. W., Jr., Ahmad, A., Sadiq, M., & Hill, P. C. (2010). The Intratextual Fundamentalism Scale: Cross-cultural application, validity evidence, and relationship with religious orientation and the Big 5 factor markers. *Mental Health, Religion, and Culture, 13*, 721-747.
- Williamson, W. P. (2009). Invited research column: Christian serpent handling. *Southwestern Psychological Association Newsletter, 2*(2), 1, 3.
- Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (2008). Contemporary Christian serpent handlers and the new paradigm for the psychology of religion. *Research in the Social Scientific Study of Religion, 19*, 59-89.
- Williamson, W. P., & Ahmad, A. (2007). Survey research and Islamic fundamentalism: A question about validity. *Journal of Muslim Mental Health, 2*, 155-176.
- Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (2006). Near death experience from serpent bites in religious settings: A Jamesian perspective. *Archives de Psychologie, 72*, 139-159.
- Williamson, W. P., & Assadi, A. (2005). Religious orientation, incentive, self-esteem, and gender as predictors of academic dishonesty: An experimental approach. *Archive for the Psychology of Religion, 28*, 137-159.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2004). Differential maintenance and growth of religious organizations based upon high-cost behaviors: Serpent handling within the Church of God. *Review of Religious Research, 46*(2), 150-168.
- Williamson, W. P. (2002). Another look at fundamentalism: A new model. *Psychology of Religion Newsletter: American Psychological Association Division 36, 27*(1), 1-8.
- Hood, R. W., Jr., Ghorbani, N., Watson, P. J., Ghramaleki, A. F., Bing, M. N., Davison, H. K., Morris, R. J., & Williamson, W. P. (2001). Dimensions of the mysticism scale: Confirming the three-factor structure in the United States and Iran. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, 40*(4), 691-705.
- Williamson, W. P., Pollio, H. R., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2000). A phenomenological analysis of the anointing among religious serpent handlers. *International Journal for the*

- Psychology of Religion*, 10(4), 221-240.
- Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (2000). An empirical test of the unity thesis: The structure of mystical descriptors in various faith samples. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 19(3), 232-244.
- Hood, R. W., Jr., Williamson, W. P., & Morris, R. J. (2000). Changing views of serpent handling: A quasi-experimental study. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 39(3), 287-296.
- Hood, R. W., Jr., Morris, R. J., & Williamson, W. P. (1999). Evaluation of the legitimacy of conversion experience as a function of the five signs of Mark 16. *Review of Religious Research*, 41(Fall), 96-108.
- Williamson, W. P., & Pollio, H. R. (1999). The phenomenology of religious serpent handling: A rationale and thematic study of extemporaneous sermons. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 38(2), 203-218.
- Williamson, W. P. (1998). Response to a research challenge. *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*. 8(2), 97-100.

Publications: Book Reviews
(Chronological order beginning with most recent)

- Williamson, W. P. (2020). [Review of *Religion of fear: The true history of the Church of God of the Union Assembly*]. *Appalachian Journal*, 47(1-2), 130-132.
- Williamson, W. P. (2013). [Review of *Psychology of religion: Autobiographical accounts*]. *Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality Newsletter: American Psychological Association Division*, 37(1), 9-10.
- Williamson, W. P. (2011). [Review of *Towards a cultural psychology of religion: Principles, approaches, and applications*]. *Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality Newsletter: American Psychological Association Division* 36, 35(4), 9-10.
- Williamson, W. P. (2010). [Review of *Changing the scientific study of religion: Beyond Freud*]. *Psychology of Religion Newsletter: American Psychological Association Division* 36, 35(2), 19-22.
- Williamson, W. P. (2010). [Review of *Religious fundamentalism: Global, local and personal*]. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 49, 579-581.
- Williamson, W. P. (2000). [Review of *The serpent handlers: Three families and their faith*]. *Journal of East Tennessee History*, 72, 88-89.
- Williamson, W. P. (1994). [Review of *Varieties of prayer: A survey report*]. *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*, 4(3), 203-204.

Publications: Book Endorsements
(Chronological order beginning with most recent)

- Dehoff, S. L., (2018). *Psychosis or mystical religious experience?* Gewerbestrasse, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Beit-Hallahmi, B. (2015). *Psychological perspectives on religion and religiosity*. New

- York: Routledge.
- Paloutzian, R. F., & Park, C. L. (2014). *Handbook of the psychology of religion and spirituality* 2nd ed.). New York: Guilford Press.
- Hood, R. W., Jr., Hill, P. C., & Spilka, B., (2009). *The psychology of religion: An empirical approach* (4th ed.). New York: Guilford Press.
- Paloutzian, R. F., & Park, C. L. (2005). *Handbook of the psychology of religion and spirituality* (1st ed.). New York: Guilford Press.

Media Work
(Chronological order beginning with most recent)

- Interview with Frank Lockwood, “Snake handlers intrigue professor.” *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*. December 31, 2017, pp. 1B, 9B.
- Live online presentation, *The Religious Studies Project*, “Poison-drinking in obedience to the faith: A phenomenological study of the experience.” First appeared 3/23/15.
<http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/2015/03/23/religious-experience-understanding-and-explaining/>
- Interview with Aaron Nolan, KARK TV News, Channel 4, Little Rock AR: “Faith matters: Snakes in churches.” Broadcast May 19, 2014, 10:00 pm.
- Interview with Bill Estep, *Lexington Herald-Leader*. Article on Pastor Jamie Coots’ death and later snakebite of his son, Cody: “Months after snake-handling preacher’s death, his son recovering from snakebite.” Appeared May 27, 2014. <http://www.kentucky.com/2014/05/27/3261690/months-after-snake-handling-preachers.html>
- Interview with Joshua Rhett Miller, FOX News. Article on Pastor Jamie Coots’ death: “Snake handling puts religious freedom, public safety in spotlight after Kentucky death.” Appeared February 26, 2014. <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2014/02/26/snake-handling-puts-religious-freedom-public-safety-in-spotlight-after-kentucky/>
- Interview with Travis Loller, Associated Press. Article on Jamie Coots’ death: “Kentucky snake handler death doesn’t shake belief.” Appeared Published Feb 27, 2014.
<http://www.bendbulletin.com/nation/1833019-151/kentucky-snake-handler-death-doesnt-shake-belief>
- Live interview, CNN TV. Interview on attending Cody Coots first church service as pastor. Broadcast Feb 23, 2014, 6:35 am.
- Live interview with Tom Ashbrook, *On Point*, broadcast by NPR. “On snake-handling and faith.” Broadcast Feb 18, 2014. <http://onpoint.wbur.org/2014/02/18/extinction-humanity-society#comment-1250210139>.
- Interview with Daniel Burke, CNN. Article on Pastor Jamie Coots’ death: “A faithful death: Why a snake handler refused treatment.” Appeared February 17, 2014.
<http://religion.blogs.cnn.com/2014/02/17/was-snake-handlers-death-preventable/comment-page-1/>

Interview podcast. *The Religious Studies Project*, “On Serpent Handling.” First appeared June 3, 2013. <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/podcast-paul-williamson-on-serpent-handling/>

Papers and Presentations
(chronological order beginning with most recent)

- Williamson, W. P. (2021, March). *Invited presentation: Conjectures and controversy in the study of fundamentalism*. International and Interdisciplinary Workshop on “Religious Fundamentalism: New Challenges in Theory and Empirics across Cultures and Religions”, Münster, Germany.
- Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (2019, October). *Video documentation of the Serpent Handling Tradition of Appalachia: Archival data from 35 years of longitudinal study*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, St. Louis.
- Williamson, W. P. (2019, September). *Another look at religious fundamentalism: Then and now*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion, Gdańsk, Poland.
- Williamson, W. P. (2018, October). *Author meets critics: Psychosis or mystical religious experience? A new paradigm grounded in psychology and reformed theology*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Las Vegas.
- Williamson, W. P. & Ahmad, A. (2018, October). *A study on the preliminary development of a spiritual wellness scale*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Las Vegas.
- Williamson, W. P. (2017, October). *A phenomenological inquiry into Muslim prayer experiences*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Washington DC.
- Williamson, W. P. (2016, October). *Appalachian serpent handling and its community dynamics*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Atlanta.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2015, August). *Resurrection at the Lazarus Project?": The outcome of a five-year longitudinal study on spiritual transformation during substance addiction recovery*. Paper given at the Congress of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion, Istanbul, Turkey.
- Williamson, W. P. (2014, October). *Poison-drinking in obedience to the faith: A phenomenological study of the experience*. Paper given at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Indianapolis.
- Williamson, W. P. (2014, May). *Religious serpent handling and community relations*. Paper given at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago.
- Williamson, W. P. (2014, April). *Religious serpent handling: A contested and fated Practice?* Paper given at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological

- Association, San Antonio.
- Williamson, W. P. (2013, January). *Religious fundamentalism and racial prejudice: A study concerned with implicit and explicit measurement*. Paper given at the Pre-conference on Psychology of Religion-Spirituality at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2012, October). *Spiritual mentoring: A factor in spiritual transformation at the Lazarus Project*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Phoenix.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2011, August). *Spiritual transformation as the outcome of a personal religious experience and a vision*. Paper presented at the Congress of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion, Bari, Italy.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2010, October). *The Lazarus Project: Progress in an empirical study of spiritual transformation*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Baltimore.
- Williamson, W. P. (2010, July). *Christian serpent handling: An example of American religious diversity*. Invited talk at the Seventh Annual P-12 Regional Social Studies Conference, Malvern, AR.
- Williamson, W. P. (2009, October). *Author meets critic: Critique of J. A. Belzen's "Toward a cultural psychology of religion: Principles, approaches, and applications."* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Denver, CO.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2009, October). *A phenomenological study of spirit baptism as an agent of spiritual transformation*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Denver, CO.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2008, October). *The Lazarus Project: Godly love aimed at spiritual transformation in a drug rehabilitation program*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Louisville, KY.
- Williamson, W. P. (2008, July). *Christian serpent handling: A unique expression of American religion*. Invited talk at the Fifth Annual P-12 Regional Social Studies Conference, Arkadelphia, AR.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2007, November). *The Lazarus Project: The beginning of a longitudinal study of spiritual transformation in a faith-based rehabilitation program*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Tampa, FL.
- Williamson, W. P., Ahmad, A., Hood, R. W., Jr., & Sadiq, M. (2007, August). *A revised intratextual fundamentalism scale and its cross-cultural application*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco.
- Williamson, W. P. (2007, February). *Near-death experiences from a religious perspective*. Community presentation at Henderson State University, Maralyn Sommer (Chair).
- Williamson, W. P., Ahmad, A., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2006, August). *A question about validity in survey research in the psychology of religion*. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion, Leuven, Belgium.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2005, November). *A new religious fundamentalism*

- measure: Preliminary work based on the principle of intratextuality.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Rochester, NY.
- Williamson, W. P. (2005, March). *The psychology of religious fundamentalism.* Community presentation at Henderson State University, Maralyn Sommer (Chair).
- Williamson, W. P. (2004, October). *Critical review: In earshot of mighty rushing winds: Author meets critics. Review of M. M. Poloma's Main street mystics: The Toronto blessing and reviving Pentecostalism.* Critique presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Kansas City, MO.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2004, October). *A phenomenological perspective on encountering death from bitten religious serpent handlers.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Kansas City, MO.
- Williamson, W. P. (2004, March). *Toward an understanding of the religious fundamentalist worldview: A new psychological model.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Division of Psychoanalysis of the American Psychological Association, Miami.
- Williamson, W. P. (2003, October). *Fire in Atlanta: Love, empowerment, and spiritual transformation.* Organizer/Convener of symposium at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Norfolk, VA
- Williamson, W. P. (2003, April). *A phenomenological analysis of near-death experience among bitten religious serpent handlers.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, New Orleans.
- Williamson, W. P. & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2003, March). *A preliminary analysis of music lore among Appalachian Christian serpent handlers.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Association, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY.
- Williamson, W. P. (2002, November). *An intratextual approach to understanding fundamentalism among religious serpent-handlers of the Southeastern United States.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Williamson, W. P. (2002, April). *An intratextual approach to understanding religious fundamentalism: Model and application.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Corpus Christi, TX.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (2002, March). *A longitudinal study of Appalachian Christian serpent-handlers: Narratives before and after being bit and dying.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Conference, Helen, GA.
- Williamson, W. P. (2001, August). *Invited address – Another look at fundamentalism: A new model.* Address given the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Division 36, San Francisco.
- Williamson, W. P., & Froese, A. D. (2001, April). *Preliminary scale construction toward a measure of reported religious experience based on Otto's Idea of the holy.* Poster paper at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Houston, TX.
- Williamson, W. P. (2001, March). *Invited address: Behavioral science ethics.* Workshop presentation at the annual meeting of the Kansas Association of Master-level Psychologists, Wichita, KS.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (1999, November). *Religious serpent handling: A*

- Church of God practice*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Boston, MA.
- Hood, R. W., Jr., Williamson, W. P., & Morris, R. J. (1999, November). *Changing attitudes toward laws against serpent handling: A quasi-experimental study*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Boston, MA.
- Williamson, W. P. (1999, March). *Being found: The experience of anointing among religious serpent handlers*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Savannah, GA.
- Williamson, W. P. (1998, November). *An empirical study of the anointing among religious serpent handlers of the Southeastern United States*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Toronto, QUE. [Note: This paper focused specifically on the phenomenology of anointing.]
- Hood, R. W., Jr., & Williamson, W. P. (1998, March). *Nuances of serpent-bite death: Secular influences on theological perspectives*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Pentecostal Studies, Cleveland, TN.
- Williamson, W. P. (1998, March). *An empirical study of the anointing among religious serpent handlers*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Mobile, AL. [Note: This paper focused on the actual experience of a single handler in taking up serpents—not specifically upon the anointing.]
- Williamson, W. P. (1997, April). *Toward a measure of reported religious mystical experience*. Poster paper at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Atlanta, GA.
- Williamson, W. P. (1996, November). *The phenomenology of affect in Holiness sects*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and Religious Research Association, Nashville, TN.
- Williamson, W. P. (1996, March). *Boundary maintenance among Southern serpent handlers*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Norfolk, VA.
- Williamson, W. P. (1995, October). *Panel discussant*. In R. W. Hood, Jr. (Chair). *The human side of prayer*. Book review discussion conducted at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, St. Louis, MO.
- Williamson, W. P., Morris, R. J., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (1995, October). *Prayer as a predictor of spiritual and existential well being*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, St. Louis, MO.
- Williamson, W. P. (1995, March). *An attributional basis for the Church of God's rejection of serpent-handling*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Savannah, GA.
- Williamson, W. P. (1995, March). *Prayer and spiritual well-being*. Poster paper at the meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Savannah, GA.
- Williamson, W. P. (1994, March). *The prayer questionnaire and religious experiences in the Church of God of Prophecy*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Williamson, W. P., & Hood, R. W., Jr. (1993, March). *A comparison between born-again*

and tongue-speaking members of the Church of God of Prophecy on a measure of reported mystical experience. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Atlanta, GA.

**Sample of Student-Directed Research
(chronological order beginning with most recent)**

- Thomas, F. (2015, April). *Gender, religion, compassion, and the value of the human life.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Wichita.
- Zarate, A. (2015, April). *Second language learning anxiety, performance tasks, gender, and mastery level: An experimental investigation.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Wichita.
- Langley, K. (2013, April). *Religion and prosociality: The replication of a study.* Poster paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Fort Worth.
- Bishop, J. (2012, April). *Racial prejudice: A feature of religious fundamentalism or response to hate preaching?* Poster paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Oklahoma City.
- Hollis, C., & Williamson, W. P. (2011, April). *Gender differences in detecting tone of voice.* Poster paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, San Antonio.
- Thompson, L., & Williamson, W. P. (2011, April). *Attitudes toward date rape and the effects of alcohol.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, San Antonio.
- Baldwin, B., Ahmad, A., & Williamson, W. P. (2010, April). *Perceived notions on personal relationships with people with disabilities.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Dallas.
- Delong, J., Ahmad, A., & Williamson, W. P. (2010, April). *Religion, religious experiences, and emotion.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Dallas.
- Overturf, A., & Williamson, W. P. (2009, April). *Fundamentalism and threatening/affirming articles as predictors of Right Wing Authoritarianism.* Poster paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, San Antonio, TX.
- Kinser, K., & Williamson, W. P. (2008, April). *Religious quest orientation and fundamentalism as predictors of motivation.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Kansas City.
- Langley, A., & Williamson, W. P. (2007, April). *Religious priming effects on responses to political issues.* Poster paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Fort Worth, TX.
- Short, A., & Williamson, W. P. (2006, April). *An investigation of the influence of religiosity and profanity on the recall of comedic material.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Austin, TX.
- Assadi, A., & Williamson, W. P. (2005, March). *The effect of gender, incentive, and self-esteem*

- on academic dishonesty*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Memphis, TN.
- Foltz, A. D., & Williamson, W. P. (2005, March). *The effects of integrity test performance on behavior*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Memphis, TN.
- Williams, L., & Williamson, W. P. (2005, March). *Effects of religious and secular media on sexual opinions*. Poster paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Memphis, TN.