

**Charles D. Thompson, Jr., Ph.D.**

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**EDUCATION:**

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

**Ph.D. in Religious Studies**, May 1998

- Religion and Culture Specialization
- Graduate Certificate in Latin American Studies
- Graduate Certificate in Cultural Studies
- Teaching/research competence in anthropology (18 graduate hours)

**Dissertation:** “Borders Bleed: Refugees, Repatriates, Religion and the Jacalteco Maya,” an ethnographic study. Professor Ruel W. Tyson, Jr., advisor. Committee of three cultural anthropologists, two religious studies scholars, and one political scientist.

**M.A. in Religious Studies**, 1994

Thesis: “You Must Not Idle Stand: A Study of the Old German Baptist Brethren of the Pigg River District, Franklin County, Virginia.”

**North Carolina A&T State University**, Greensboro, 1984

**M.S. in Agricultural Education**

**Emory and Henry College**, Emory, Virginia, 1979

**B.A. in Sociology, Sociology and Religion (double major)**

**ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS:**

**BOOKS:**

*Border Odyssey: Travels Along the U.S./Mexico Divide*. University of Texas Press, May 2015. Paperback to be released in 2017.

*Spirits of Just Men: Mountaineers, Liquor Bosses, and Lawmen In the Moonshine Capital of the World*. University of Illinois Press, May 2011.

*The Old German Baptist Brethren: Faith, Farming, and Change in the Virginia Blue Ridge*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2006.

*Indigenous Diasporas and Dislocations: Unsettling Western Fixations*, Anthology with Graham Harvey. Aldersgate, U.K.: Ashgate Press, 2005.

*The Human Cost of Food: Farmworker Lives, Labor, and Advocacy*. Edited volume with Melinda Wiggins. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2002.

*Maya Identities and the Violence of Place: Borders Bleed*. Monograph.

In the edited series: *Vitality of Indigenous Religions*. Aldersgate, U.K.: Ashgate Press, 2001.

## **DOCUMENTARY FILMS:**

*Homeplace Under Fire: The Farm Advocate Story.* Directed by Charles Thompson.  
Produced by Farm Aid. Premiered USDA, Washington, D.C. September 2016.  
Scheduled to tour nationally with Farm Aid, Inc., early 2017. See this website:  
<https://www.farmaid.org/our-work/farm-advocate-link/>

*Border Crossing 101.* Directed by Charles Thompson. Edited by Sarah Garrahan. Story of immigration and education at Duke University. 2016.

*Faces of Time.* Directed by Charles Thompson. Edited by Sarah Garrahan.  
Documentary Short accompanies *Border Odyssey*. Domestic and international screenings, 2014.

*Brother Towns/ Pueblos Hermanos.* Directed by Charles Thompson and Michael Davey. Numerous university, film festival and community screenings, including Latin American Film Festival fall 2010. National distribution: Bullfrog Films. New York Times op-ed about film. 2010.

*We Shall Not Be Moved: The History of the Tillery Resettlement Farm.*  
Produced by the Concerned Citizens of Tillery. Directed by Charles Thompson and Chris Potter. Premiered Cucalorus Film Festival November 2007. Also screened at Langston Hughes Film Festival, and the Delta Film Festival, where it won the “Best Documentary” prize, and at numerous community and university events. 2007.

*The Guestworker.* Produced and directed by Charles Thompson and Cynthia Hill. Premiered at Full Frame Documentary Film Festival in Durham, NC, aired nationally on PBS, and has traveled internationally, including to the Berlin Film Festival and the Universidad de Guanajuato in Guanajuato, Mexico as well as dozens of venues in the US. 2006.

## **WEBSITES:**

Personal website featuring film trailers, books, articles, and teaching philosophy.  
<http://cdthomps.com>

Plate Tectonics: Finding the Fault Lines of Our Food Systems. Course documentary  
Shorts designed in thirteen different lessons for Critical Food Studies course.  
<http://sites.duke.edu/platetectonics/>

Border Odyssey web site. Photographs, text, audio, video, maps, resources and more, all published as a companion to the book *Border Odyssey: Travels Along the U.S./Mexico divide*. [www.borderodyssey.com](http://www.borderodyssey.com)

Brother Towns/ Pueblos Hermanos web site. Extensive educational web site designed to accompany the film, *Brother Towns*. Includes interviews, research on related topics, a bibliography, and study guides: [www.brothertowns.com](http://www.brothertowns.com)

“Who Cares About New Orleans and Why.” Documentary web production based on my students’ work in post-Katrina New Orleans during March 2006. Link: <http://aas.duke.edu/katrina/>

## RECENT ARTICLES, BOOK CHAPTERS, AND BOOK REVIEWS:

- “Braceros Portraits in Ciudad Juarez: An Exercise in Collaboration and Humility” In press, *Southern Cultures* (UNC Chapel Hill), forthcoming 2017.
- “Visions for Sustainable Agriculture in Cuba and the United States: Changing Minds and Models through Exchange” in *Southern Spaces: An Interdisciplinary Journal about Regions, Places, and Cultures in the U.S. South and their Global Connections*. (Atlanta: Emory University, March 2012) <http://www.southernspaces.org/2012/visions-sustainable-agriculture-cuba-and-united-states-changing-minds-and-models-through-exchan>
- “Whiskey and Geography” in *Cornbread Nation: The Best of Southern Food Writing*,” Brett Anderson, editor (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2012), Pp. 170-3.
- “Moonshiners and Prohibitionists,” in *Gastronomica*, fall, 2012, pp. 115-6 {book review}.
- “Even the Dead Will Not Be Safe,” in *North Carolina Conversations* (Greensboro: North Carolina Humanities Council) Winter/Spring 2012, pp. 8-9.
- “Documenting Migrants: An Interview with Charles D. Thompson” in *Southern Spaces*: (Atlanta: Emory University, August 2011). <http://southernspaces.org/2011/documenting-migrants-interview-charles-d-thompson-jr>
- “Whiskey and Geography” in *Southern Spaces*. (Atlanta: Emory University, May 2011), <http://www.southernspaces.org/2011/whiskey-and-geography>
- Book Chapter: ““Guestworkers: Farmworkers, Filmmakers, Obligations in the Field,”180-197, in *Viewpoints: Visual Anthropologists at Work* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2009).
- “Raising Citizens: The Old German Baptist Brethren and Community-Based Farming in the Virginia Blue Ridge.” 2005: *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, Volume 11.
- “*Faces from the Flood: Hurricane Floyd Remembered*,” by Richard Moore and Jay Barnes. *The Oral History Review*, Volume 32, No. 2, Summer/Fall 2005. Pp. 119-122 {Book Review}.
- “Harder than Hardscrabble: Oral Recollections of the Farming Life from the Edge of the Texas Hill Country,” by Thad Sitton, Ed. *Labor History* May 2005 (Vol. 46, No. 2) pp. 258-9 {Book Review}.
- “Natives of Bleeding Land: The Case of the Jacalteco Maya.” In Harvey and Thompson, eds. *Indigenous Diasporas*. Aldersgate, U.K: Ashgate, 2005.
- “They Go Quietly” in *The Journal of the Western Virginia Historical Society*, Roanoke, Virginia, Vol. 16, No. 1, 2004.
- “Dream or Déjà Vu? The debate surrounding George W. Bush’s proposed

- immigration reform." *Hemisphere*. October, 2004.
- "Tom and Betsy's Story: Tobacco People, Memory, and Vernacular History." *North Carolina Literary Review*, August, 2004.
- "Going Quietly: The Making of a Documentary Project among the Old German Baptist Brethren in the Virginia Blue Ridge." *Crossroads: A Southern Culture Annual*, Mercer University Press, 2004.
- "Who is my Neighbor? Parables of Survival from the Floyd Flood of 1999." *North Carolina Literary Review*. 2002 (No. 11) Pp. 87-98.
- Farmworker Lives, Labor, and Advocacy*. University of Texas Press, 2002. Pp. 2-20.
- Southern Voices: "The Great Deluge as told to Charles D. Thompson, Jr." *Southern Cultures*. 2001, Volume 7.3.
- "After the Great Deluge: A Chronicle of the Aftermath of Hurricane Floyd; as told to Charles Thompson." *Southern Cultures*. Fall 2001 (Vol. 7, No. 3) pp. 65-82.
- "Those Hands: What We Learned From the Hurricane Floyd Flood Survivors," in *Crossroads*. Durham: North Carolina Humanities Council, Jan. 2001.
- "Masked Identities: Dance of the Conquest and Layered Histories of the Maya," in *Journal of Latin American Lore* (UCLA) Vol. 21, No. 1, 2001.
- "The Unwieldy Promise of Ceremonies: The Case of the Jakalteko Maya's Dance of the Conquest," in Graham Harvey, editor, *Indigenous Religions: A Companion* (London: Cassells, 2000).
- "Bloodletting: Reexamining Native Identities Where Borders Bleed," *Ayaangwaamizin: International Journal of Indigenous Philosophy*, Vol. 2, No. 1, 1999.
- "Bill Bryson: A Walk in the Woods," *Appalachian Journal*, Vol. 9, No. 3, Summer 1998 {book review}.
- "Susan Ketchin: The Christ-Haunted Landscape," *Excursus*, Vol. 8, Fall 1995 {book review}.
- "The Eyes of Maximón Never Look Away: An Ethnography of Colliding Worlds," *Excursus*, Vol. 7, Spring 1994.
- "Howard Dorgan: The Airwaves of Zion," *Excursus*, Vol. 7, Spring 1994 {book review}.
- "The Pittston Strike," *Southern Changes*, Vol. 11, No. 6, December 1989.

## **PUBLISHED PHOTOGRAPHS:**

- *Southern Cultures*
- *Journal of Latin American Lore*
- *Spirits of Just Men*
- *Document: Center for Documentary Studies*
- *Viewpoints: Visual Anthropologists at Work*
- *North Carolina Independent*
- *North Carolina Literary Review*
- *Journal of Appalachian Studies*
- *Crossroads: A Southern Cultural Annual*
- *History Museum and Historical Society of Western Virginia*
- *Indigenous Religions: A Companion (book)*
- *Indigenous Diasporas and Dislocations (book)*
- *The Old German Baptists: Faith, Farming, and Change in the Virginia Blue Ridge (book)*

## **DOCUMENTARY EXHIBIT CURATION AND COMMUNITY PUBLICATIONS**

Faces of Time/*Los Rostros del Tiempo*, An exhibit at the Colegio de Chihuahua, Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico, January 2013, Duke University, 2014, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2015, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, 2016.

“Beyond the Porch” (2011, 2012). Undergraduate Documentary Studies Certificate exhibitions at the Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University.

“Border Stories,” An exhibit on the US/Mexico student delegation at Duke University and the Center for Documentary Studies, 2008.

“Fieldwork: Farmworkers and Farms in North Carolina,” An exhibit of student photography and writing, with gallery guide. Durham, NC: Duke University Faculty Commons, 2005 - 2006, Marketplace, Duke University, 2007, Divinity School Refectory – 2008- present.

“Remembering Tillery: Our Land, Our Community.” A permanent historical exhibit documenting the FSA/ New Deal Community of Tillery, NC. Opening: April 22 2005. Funding from the NC Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

*Sister Ora, Brother Goode*. Durham, NC: Center for Documentary Studies, 2004, a community-based collaborative publication sponsored by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities.

*They Go Quietly: Agricultural Change in Franklin County, Virginia*. Durham, NC: Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University, a community-based collaborative publication, 2002.

*Thirteen Month Crop: One Year in the Life of a Piedmont Tobacco Farm*. A project of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, 2001.

### **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS (Since 2005 only)**

Keynote address: East Coast Migrant Conference, Miami, Florida, November 2016.

Keynote address: Institute for Pilgrimage Studies, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, October 2016.

Premier: *Homeplace Under Fire: The Farm Advocate Story*. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. September 2016.

Numerous 2015-16 readings and interviews of *Border Odyssey* and *Border Crossing 101* At Virginia Festival of the Book, book stores, colleges, universities, libraries, etc.

“Living and Working in Brother Towns,” Keynote speech at the World View Conference, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, April 2014.

*Spirits of Just Men*, panel Convener, Appalachian Studies Association Annual Meeting, 2012.

*Spirits of Just Men*, Virginia Festival of the Book, Charlottesville, Virginia, 2012.

*Spirits of Just Men*, Virginia Tech, Center for Appalachian Studies, November 2011.

*Brother Towns* selected presentations (screenings and discussions with the filmmaker), highlights (2010-11)

“The Making of Brother Towns.” Cornell University, Cook Center, April 2010.

“*The Guestworker Today*.” UNC School of Social Work, March 2010.

“McClure Lecture: Food, Farming, and Faith.” Mars Hill College, March 2010.

“Immigration, Labor, and Education,” Teachers Institute, World Vision at UNC-Chapel Hill, March 2010.

“Immigration, the Border, and U.S. Policy.” Statewide meeting of Witness for Peace, October 2008.

“Documentary Arts: The Case of the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University.” University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa, May 2008.

“The Making of ‘We Shall Not Be Moved.’” Globalizing South Conference, UNC Chapel Hill, April 2008.

“Visual Anthropology.” Chattanooga, Tennessee: Lee University, September 2007.

“Farmworkers and Immigration.” Boone, North Carolina: Appalachian State University, September 2007.

“History of the Old German Baptist Brethren.” Callaway, Virginia: Phoebe Needles Episcopal Conference Center, September 2007.

“The Old German Baptist Brethren: Faith, Farming, and Change in the Virginia Blue Ridge.” Blacksburg, Virginia: Virginia Tech, October, 2006.

“The Old German Baptist Brethren: Past and Present.” Rocky Mount, Virginia: Franklin County Historical Society, September 2006.

“Over the Farm: The New Deal Resettlement Program and its Legacies.” Boone, North Carolina: Appalachian State University, February 2006.

“*Bienvenidos a los Estados Unidos.*” Fund for Folk Culture; American Folklore Society. Atlanta, Georgia, October 2005.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE and EXPERTISE:**

- Public Humanities
- Traditions in Documentary Studies
- Critical Food Studies
- Immigration and Border Studies
- Documentary Revolution
- Pilgrimage
- Collaborative Fieldwork in Communities
- Oral History and Non-fiction Writing
- Religion and Culture in Appalachia
- Religion and Culture in Latin America
- Farmworkers
- Immigration: Guatemala, Mexico, and the U.S
- Documentary Studies and New Media
- Visual Anthropology
- Latinos: Labor, Folklore, and Culture
- Culture and Politics of Native North and Central America
- Rural life: Agriculture, Culture, Economics, Place, and Identity
- Fieldwork Methodologies
- Native American Places
- Theories of Religion and Culture
- Philosophy of Religion
- Anthropology of Religion
- Rural Communities in Transition
- Environmental and Farm Labor Ethics
- Old German Baptist Brethren and Anabaptists
- Cultural Studies
- Activism and Social Change

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

DUKE UNIVERSITY: Curriculum and Education Director, Center for Documentary Studies and Lecturer in Cultural Anthropology, March 2000- present. Led development of undergraduate and continuing education curricula and certificate programs and field schools. DukeEngage faculty leader. Developed and taught courses at Duke University in the Certificate Program in Documentary Studies, the Department of Religion, and the Department of Cultural Anthropology including:

**Courses taught at Duke:**

- Politics of Food
- Pilgrimage
- Food Studies: Interdisciplinary Approaches to How, What, and Why We Eat
- Introduction to Critical Food Studies
- Documenting Religion
- Traditions in Documentary Studies
- Community Collaborations: Representations and Ethics
- Fieldwork Practicum
- Final Project Seminar in Documentary Studies
- Social Activism and Its Motivations
- Native American Places
- Farmworkers in North Carolina
- Tobacco People, Places, and Predicaments
- Duke Engage on the Border
- Introductory Seminar in Documentary Studies
- Pilgrimage

Note: All of my courses at CDS have included fieldwork or collaborative community work. In addition, I have supervised numerous student projects including films, oral histories and photography, and documentary writing projects.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA – CHAPEL HILL AND DUKE UNIVERSITY  
Lehman Brady Visiting Joint Chair Professor of American Studies and  
Documentary Studies, fall 2011. Served as faculty member in two departments,  
one at UNC and one at Duke. Professorship approved by both provosts.

- Politics of Food

GETTYSBURG COLLEGE: Assistant Professor, Department of Religion,  
1998-99. Taught the following courses (including fieldwork in each):

- Fieldwork in Religion and Culture
- Latin American Culture and Religion
- Social Activism Motivations
- Varieties of Religious Experience in the United States

Service and/or fieldwork included in each.

UNC-CHAPEL HILL Visiting Lecturer/Teaching Fellow, Departments of Religious  
S/tudies and Anthropology and the Program in Cultural Studies. Taught the  
following courses:

- Evolution of Moral Consciousness: An Anthropology of Morality in Colonial  
Zones, spring 1998 (lecture course).
- Unitas: A Living/Learning Experiment in Multiculturalism with 30 students  
chosen based on their differences, fall/spring 1997.
- Introduction to Religion and Culture, summer 1996.
- Psychology of Religion.
- World Religions (teaching assistant with recitation sections), fall 1994.



### **AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS since 2000:**

- Trent Foundation, Pilgrimage toward Understanding, July 2016-present.
- Fellowship, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, Fall 2015.
- Dean's Competitive Leave Grant, 2014-15.
- Duke Endowment, B.N. Duke Scholars Program for digital enhancement, Fall 2014.
- Mellon Foundation, Humanities Writ Large, Fall 2013.
- Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, Fall 2011.
- Mellon Grant in Latin American Studies, Fall 2011.
- Franklin Humanities Institute Working Group Award, spring/fall 2011.
- JHF Humanities Institute, Food Studies Working Group, Fall 2010.
- Green Grant Fund, Duke University Sustainability Office, Fall 2010.
- Fellowship, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, 2009.
- Provost Common Fund Grant, *Crossing Borders*, 2008.
- Fledgling Fund, *Brother Towns* 2008.
- Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, 2008.
- Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Fieldwork Grant, 2008.
- Duke Endowment Grant 2008, 2009.
- Trent Foundation, *Brother Towns* film project, 2007.
- Latino Public Broadcasting, Corp. for Public Broadcasting, 2006.
- Lilly Endowment, Pathways Program, New Orleans Relief Project, 2006.
- National Endowment for the Arts, with Concerned Citizens of Tillery 2006.
- North Carolina Humanities Council, with Concerned Citizens of Tillery 2006.
- Duke Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, spring 2006.
- Duke Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, summer 2005.
- Duke Dining Services and Greening Initiative Duke University, Fall 2005.
- Duke Kenan Institute for Ethics Research-Service Learning Grant, 2005
- UNC-Duke Latin American Studies Working Group Grant 2004.
- Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy project grant, 2004.
- Duke-UNC Robertson Scholars Course Development Grant, 2004.
- Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation Project Grant, 2004.
- Duke Latino Studies Faculty Grant, 2004.
- Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation Project Grant, 2004.
- North Carolina Humanities Council Project Grant, 2004.
- Duke-UNC Latin American Studies Working Group Grant, 2003.
- Duke Divinity School/ Lilly Foundation Course Development Grant, 2003.
- North Carolina Humanities Council Project Grant, July 2002.
- Andrew Mellon Faculty Travel Grant, May 2002.
- Duke University Latin American Studies Research Grant, May 2002.
- American Academy of Religion Individual Grant, 2001-2002.
- Provost's Common Fund Award, Duke University, May 2001.
- Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Research Grant, March 2001.
- UNC-Chapel Hill Center for Public Service Research Grant, January 2000.

### **SELECTED UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

- Faculty-in-Residence, Duke in Venice Program, fall 2017.
- Founding Director, Undergraduate Certificate in Documentary Studies, 2000-2015.

- Co-director, Undergraduate Certificate in Sustainability, 2015-present.
- Duke University public arts committee member, 2015.
- Director, BN Duke Scholarship Program, July 2012 – 2015.
- DukeEngage faculty director, DukeEngage Tucson, 2007- present.
- Faculty-in-Residence, Duke East Campus, Fall 2010 – 2014.
- University Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee 2015- present.
- Founding Director of Triangle University Food Studies, Fall 2010 – 2015.
- Board member, Duke Campus Farm, 2011- present.
- Board member, The Jackson Center, Chapel Hill, NC, 2012 – 2016.
- The Parchman Hour, spring break Mississippi, producer, tour organizer, Spring 2011
- Community Garden organizer, Center for Documentary Studies, Fall 2010-present
- South Africa Working Group, 2008.
- Robertson Scholars mentor, 2008f.
- Duke Students for Humane Borders, faculty sponsor, 2007-present.
- Sponsor, Immigration alternative spring break, 2007.
- Students of the World, faculty sponsor, 2004f.
- Duke University Council on Civic Engagement, 2005-present.
- Selection Committee: Benenson Awards for the Arts at Duke, 2005.
- Humanities Scholar – Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Projects (various).
- Humanities Scholar – NC Humanities Council Projects (various).
- Duke Academic Council on Latin American Studies, 2002- present.
- Co-chair of Duke-UNC working group, “Citizenship across Borders.”
- Kenan Ethics Service Learning Advisory Board, 2001-present.
- Robertson Scholars (Duke-UNC scholars) host and mentor.
- Lumbee River Fund Board of Directors, 2000f. Oral history and photography work among Native Americans in North Carolina.
- Student Action with Farmworkers (SAF) Board/Advisor, 1996-present.
- North Carolina Council of Churches Rural Life Committee, addressing needs of NC rural population, environment, and economy, 1989-present.
- Planning Committee, Duke Divinity School and NC Council of Churches, a Conference on tobacco, churches, and community for March 2000.
- Chair: Flood Floyd Hearing: NC Council of Churches, March 2000.
- Seeds of Hope Farmers’ Markets, Director, non-profit organization, 1989-92.
- Organic Farmer/ Direct Marketer, Chatham County, NC., 1984-1993.
- President, Carrboro Farmers’ Market, 1988-1992.
- Consultant, Farmer-to-Farmer Project of the University of Arizona, 1983.
- Rural Educator, Rural Advancement Foundation International, Pittsboro, NC.
- VISTA Volunteer, Frank Porter Graham Center, Wadesboro, NC, 1979-1980.

**LANGUAGES:**

- Spanish – fluent. Have made a film in Spanish (I was lead translator for subtitles) and continue to use Spanish in my fieldwork in Guatemala and Mexico (and in Latino/a USA).
- Formal study of German (graduate research) and Italian (conversational).
- Basic conversational Jacalteco Maya (Guatemalan indigenous language).