

# DR JANE FRANCES COMPSON

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## EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

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**Current:**

Instructor, Department of Philosophy, Religion and Humanities, at the University of Central Florida, since 2003.

**Previous:**

Colorado State University Graduate Teaching Assistant, 2001-2003.

International Fund for Animal Welfare, UK, Program Associate, Anti-Whaling Team, 1999-2001.

Centre for Ethics in Medicine, University of Bristol, Research Assistant, 1999-2000:

## EDUCATION

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**PhD in Comparative Religion/Philosophy (Buddhism and Christianity)**, University of Bristol, UK, 1998.

Dissertation title: "A critical analysis of John Hick's pluralistic hypothesis in the light of the Buddha's attitude towards other teachings as demonstrated in the Pali Nikayas"

Supervisors: Dr Rupert Gethin, Dr. Gavin D'Costa.

**M.A. in Philosophy**, Colorado State University, 2004.

Thesis title: "Whose Pain, Which Morality? A Defense Of The Moral Considerability Of Animals Using A Coherence Model Of Ethical Justification."

Committee Members: Professor Holmes Rolston III, Professor Bernard Rollin, Dr Lynn Kesel.

**M. A. (with Commendation)**, in **Religion in the Contemporary World**, University of Bristol, UK, 1994

**B.A. (Honours) in English Literature, (First Class)**, University of Exeter, UK, 1992.

## AREAS OF SPECIALISATION

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Philosophy of Religion: particularly comparative religion and inter-religious dialogue.  
Buddhism: particularly Theravada Buddhism.  
Ethics: Environmental Ethics, Animal Ethics

## AREAS OF COMPETENCE

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Religion and nature/environment  
Medical Ethics; Veterinary Ethics  
Ethical Theory

## PUBLICATIONS

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- “The Dalai Lama and the World Religions: A False Friend?” in *Religious Studies*, 32 (2), 1996, pp.271-279
- “Why Buddhism Makes Sense” in Ian Markham’s *A World Religions Reader* (Blackwell, Oxford, 1996).
- Review Article of Don Cupitt’s *Is Nothing Sacred?* in *Conversations in Religion and Theology* 1 (2), pp. 115-230 November 2003
- Book Review of *Rethinking Religion* by Will Deming. *Reviews in Religion and Theology* 12 (4), 2005.
- Review Article of Merv Fowler’s *Zen Buddhism* in *Conversations in Religion and Theology*, Volume 4, Issue 2, pp197-204, Nov 2006,
- Review Article of *Finding God in the Singing River* by Mark I Wallace, *Conversations in Religion & Theology*, Volume 5, Issue 1, Page 42-54, May 2007.
- “Seeing Outranks Believing: Some Buddhist Reflections on Faith and Belief” in *Modern Believing*, (forthcoming).

## SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

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- Presenter, public lecture on “Kerouac, The Beats and Buddhism”, October 11<sup>th</sup> 2007, UCF library.
- Presentation, “Ecology of Mind” American Academy of Religions, Washington, Nov 06
- Panelist, Symposium, Bioethics – Hindu and Buddhist Perspectives, November 2006, Orlando.
- Presentation at AAR, San Diego Academic Study of Religion section: “Ecological Teaching: Using mindfulness to weaken the urge to consume.”, scheduled for: November 19 2007
- Presentation at meeting of the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture, Morelia, Mexico, “Intelligent tinkering: the practice of mindfulness and the ecology of the mind.”, scheduled for January 19 2008.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- **University of Central Florida**

REL 3672 Animal Ethics (fully online, introduced to the curriculum)  
REL 3340 Buddhist Thought (face-to-face and fully online, introduced to the curriculum);  
PHI 3033 Philosophy, Religion and the Environment. (face-to-face and fully online);  
REL 3700 Philosophy of Religion;  
PHI 3670 Ethical Theory;  
PHI 3640 Environmental Ethics;  
PHI 3638 Ethical Issues in 21<sup>st</sup> Century;  
Honors Seminar (team-taught) in Buddhism, Justice and Crime (introduced to the curriculum);  
2 independent study supervisions in comparative religion, 2 independent study supervisions in philosophy, religion and the environment.  
Forthcoming: Religion and Medicine (introduced to the curriculum)

- **Stetson University**

Indo-Tibetan Buddhism

- **Colorado State University**

1 semester lecturing "Issues in the Study of Religion"; 3 semesters assisting "Appreciation of Philosophy" (general ethics); 1 semester assisting "Veterinary Ethics"; 1 semester advising Independent Study student.

- **University of Bristol**

Undergraduate seminar, "The Sea of Faith"; Lecture course, "Critical Thinking and Argument Analysis"; Buddhist Studies seminar; Medical ethics seminar

## SERVICE

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### Professional Service

- Moderator, "Change Your Mind Day", Orlando September 15<sup>th</sup> 2007
- Instructor, Buddhist Thought, Elderhostel program, Stetson University, February 07
- Guest speaker, DeLand Montessori School, February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2007
- Session Chair, *Heresy, Blasphemy and Freedom of Speech*, UCF, January 07
- Panelist and moderator, "Change Your Mind Day", Orlando May 2006.
- Reviewer (invited), to write reader's report on proposed book.: *The Two-Tiered Illusion of Self* by Miri Albahari, 2005.

### University Service

- Course Scheduling, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, UCF, 2007-present
- Religious Studies Curriculum Committee, UCF, 2003- present
- Ethics Center Committee, Department of Philosophy at UCF, 2005 - present.
- UCF Teaching In Practice Procedures and Criteria Committee, 2006.
- Boardman Foundation (environmental education foundation), Committee member, 2003-present.
- Advisor, Honors in the Major Thesis, Stephanie Cato, "In Support of Lynn White: Rethinking Christian Theologies in the Light of the Ecological Crisis", 2006-7.

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

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UCF Faculty Development Summer Conference, Information Fluency Track, Orlando, Summer 2007, \$500.  
UCF Faculty Development Winter Project, Information Fluency Track, Orlando, Winter 2006, \$500.  
UCF Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning: Course Innovation Project, Fall 2005, \$500.  
UCF Faculty Development Summer Conference, Internationalizing Courses Project, April 2004, \$1000  
UCF Course Development and Web Services: IDL 5643, Training to Teach Fully Online, \$2000  
UCF Faculty Development Winter Project, Daytona Campus, Winter 2004, \$500.  
UCF Faculty Development Winter Conference: Collaborative Learning and Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Project December 2003, \$1000.  
Colorado State University, Department of Philosophy, Full Teaching Assistantship, approx \$30,000, and all tuition.  
The British Academy: Full Four-Year Studentship for Masters and PhD Program, 1994-1998.  
Commendation for M.A., University of Bristol, 1994.  
Gamini Salgado Prize for Best Undergraduate Dissertation, University of Exeter, 1992.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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New England Educational Institute Symposium, "Mindfulness, Radical Acceptance and Willingness", with Dr Marsha Linehan, July 23 - 27, 2007, Cape Cod, MA. 15 CE credits

Mind and Life XV, Emory University, "Mindfulness, Compassion and the Treatment of Depression" with His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup> 2007, 9-5pm. 5 CE credits

Florida Master Naturalist Program:  
Coastal Systems Module, November 2005  
Wetlands Module, March 2006