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Andrew Wilson (academic)

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Andrew Wilson (born December 26, 1950), full name Andrew Murray Wilson, is the Director of Scriptural Research^[1] and Professor of Scriptural Studies of the [Unification Theological Seminary](#) (UTS), the main seminary of the international [Unification Church](#).^[2]

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World Scripture and its reception [edit]

Wilson edited *World Scripture: A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts* (published 1991),^[3] a comparative anthology that contains over 4,000 [scriptural](#) passages from 268 [sacred texts](#) and 55 oral traditions.^[4] [Gifford Lecturer Ninian Smart](#) wrote the book's foreword.^[3] Its publisher quotes include praise for its contribution to comparative religion from clergy, scholars, and practitioners of multiple faith traditions,^[3] and it has been briefly and favorably mentioned in multiple non-UTS publications.^[5] Peace studies professor Lester Kurtz called the online version of the book, which is available in multiple online locations,^[6] a "wonderful compendium".^[7] The online version of *World Scripture* is linked to by many collegiate^[8] and independent^[9] websites as a comparative religion resource.

Other accomplishments [edit]

In *Controversial New Religions*, [James R. Lewis](#) describes Wilson as "a leading Unification scholar."^[10] Wilson has been editor of UTS's academic *Journal of Unification Studies* since its inception in 1997^{[11][12]} and of all the contributors of this Journal, he has the most hits with 194242 with his paper entitled "40th Anniversary Forum: The Unification Church in America".^[13] Wilson led the translation committee for the main scripture of the Unification Church, *Exposition of the Divine Principle*.^{[14][15]} and co-author of *Cultivating Heart and Character: Educating for Life's Most Essential Goals*.^[16] Wilson

Andrew Wilson



Dr. Wilson at an academic gathering

Born	26 December 1950 (age 68) Syracuse, New York
Residence	Red Hook, New York
Nationality	American
Alma mater	Harvard University
Occupation	Professor, Academic Dean
Employer	Unification Theological Seminary
Known for	Unification Church theologian, author, educator

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serves as senior advisor^[17] and chair of the editorial board^[18] for the Unification Church-sponsored *New World Encyclopedia*.

Born a Jew,^[10] Wilson performs speaking^[19] and leadership roles^[20] in the Unification Church's [Middle East Peace Initiative](#), with a focus on [Christian–Jewish reconciliation](#).^[21] He received his undergraduate degree from [Harvard University](#) in 1971, and later obtained an M.T.S from [Harvard Divinity School](#) and Ph.D. from Harvard.^[22] Wilson was subject to a forced [deprogramming](#) attempt in 1975, and in late 1980 protested a Harvard talk on the subject by cult critic [Margaret Thaler Singer](#).^[22] Wilson joined the faculty of Unification Theological Seminary in 1985, the year his Ph.D. thesis was published.^[23] At UTS, Wilson currently teaches a variety of scriptural studies, living traditions, and theology courses.^[24]

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- ^{1.} [^] ["Biography"](#) [Archived](#) [February 16, 2012](#), at the [Wayback Machine](#) Retrieved February 19, 2012
- ^{2.} [^] Wilson, Andrew (January 1999). "A guidebook to our culture". **14** (1). [The World & I](#): 266.
- ^{3.} [^] ^a ^b ^c ["World Scripture: A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts"](#) [Archived](#). Paragon House. Archived from [the original](#) [on 2005-03-19](#). Retrieved 2008-07-02.
- ^{4.} [^] [Howard University Library System, Divinity Library](#) [Archived](#) [May 12, 2008](#), at the [Wayback Machine](#).
- ^{5.} [^] In [Booklist](#), Bibel and McConnell list it among 12 volumes which "will help librarians provide quick answers to many questions" and "are appropriate for both academic- and public-library collections." (Bibel, Barbara; J. Christopher McConnell (1999-10-15). "World Scripture: A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts". **96** (4). [The Booklist](#).). In [Library Journal](#), Bill Piekarski highlights the online version of *World Scripture* in a "Religious Pluralism on the Web" roundup.(Piekarski, Bill (2001-02-01). "Webwatch-Religious Pluralism on the Web". *Library Journal*. **126** (2).) In the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#), the online version is mentioned as a case study in converting a book to a web resource. (S., R. (1996-11-01). "Project Will Aid the Study of Religion". *Chronicle of Higher Education*. **43** (10): A27.)
- ^{6.} [^] For example: [World Scripture: A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts](#) [Archived](#), accessed July 5, 2008
- ^{7.} [^] Kurtz, Lester R. (July 2005). "Gülen's Paradox: Combining Commitment and Tolerance". **95** (3). [The Muslim World](#): 373–385.
- ^{8.} [^] see, e.g., [Southwestern University](#) [Archived](#) [August 21, 2008](#), at the [Wayback Machine](#), [Howard University](#) [Archived](#) [May 12, 2008](#), at the [Wayback Machine](#), [Austin Community College](#) [Archived](#) [July 24, 2008](#), at the [Wayback Machine](#), among others
- ^{9.} [^] [General Anthologies of Sacred Texts](#) [Archived](#)
- ^{10.} [^] ^a ^b Lewis, James R.; Jesper Aagaard Petersen (2004). *Controversial New Religions*. Oxford University Press. p. 46. ISBN 0-19-515682-X.
- ^{11.} [^] [Journal Of Unification Studies](#) [Archived](#)
- ^{12.} [^] Wilson, Andrew (1997). "From the Editor" [Archived](#). **1**. [Journal of Unification Studies](#).
- ^{13.} [^] ["Articles by Andrew Wilson"](#) [Archived](#) [March 27, 2011](#), at the [Wayback Machine](#) Retrieved February 19, 2012
- ^{14.} [^] He is also the author of *The Nations in Deutero-Isaiah: A Study on Composition and Structure*

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20. [^] "MEPI Leadership" ↗. Archived from the original ↗ on 2004-02-21. Retrieved 2008-07-09.
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24. [^] "Unification Theological Seminary Catalog 07-08" ↗. Archived from the original ↗ on 2011-07-20. Retrieved 2008-07-08.

External links [edit]

- . World Scripture ↗ - complete online text
- . Unification Theological Seminary ↗

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