

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL DATA

Name: Miguel Henrique Guerra Gonçalves Farias

Date of Birth: 27/12/1973

Nationality: Portuguese

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EDUCATION

2000-2004. Doctorate degree in Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford, UK. Thesis Title "A Psychological Study of New Age Practices and Beliefs".

1993-1997. Licentiate degree in Psychology (with pre-specialisation in Cognitive-Behavioural Psychotherapy). Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Lisbon, Portugal.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

1/04/2005 - Present. Research Associate. Oxford Centre for Science of the Mind (OXCSOM) & Ian Ramsey Centre, Theology Faculty, University of Oxford.

1/99-8/2000. Research Assistant. University of Lisbon, Faculty of Psychology and Education.

6/98-1/99. Junior Researcher. New University of Lisbon, Faculty of Social and Human Sciences.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

(at the Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford)

Tutor in Social and Cultural Psychology (2005 Michaelmas term)

Tutor in Social Psychology (2003/2004).

Demonstrator in Research Methods (2003/2004).

Demonstrator in Health Psychology (Hilary Term, 2003).

Tutor in Cultural Psychology (Michaelmas Term, 2002).

RESEARCH PROJECTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

8/2000-7/2004. Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology. Doctoral Scholarship.

8/2001. Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology. Travel Grant.

7/2001. Jesus College, Oxford. Travel Grant.

10/1998-9/2000. BIAL Foundation, Oporto. Research Grant Reference: 64/98. "The effects of prayer: a psychological and physiological study in a cardiac unit".

10/99-6/2000. University of Lisbon. "A Cross-national research project on Religious and Political Attitudes of Students".

6/98-2000. Portuguese National Science Foundation. Research Grant Reference: PRAXIS/C/SOC/10159/98. "Through the looking glass: a relational approach to the social inscription of reading".

- 6/98-1/99. Institute of Sociology and Ethnology of Religions, New University of Lisbon.
 Project "A pilot study on New Religious Movements in Portugal".
 5/99. American-Portuguese Foundation. Travel Grant.
 9/99. Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology. Travel Grant.

PUBLICATIONS

Editor (Books)

- . R. Amoroso, R. Antunes, C. Coelho, M. Farias, A. Leite, and P. Soares (Eds.) (2000). *Science and the Primacy of Consciousness*. Orinda, CA: Noetic Press.
 . M. Farias, C. Coelho, P. Soares, A. Leite, R. Antunes (Eds.) (1998) *The Experience of the Sacred: Society, the Individual and Tradition*. Lisbon: Hugin Press. (In Portuguese)

Articles

- . Farias, M., Claridge, G., and Lalljee, M. (2005) Personality and Cognitive Predictors of New Age Practices and Beliefs. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 39, 979-989.
 . Farias, M., and Lalljee, M. (in press) Empowerment in the New Age: A Motivational Study of Autobiographical Life Stories. *Journal of Contemporary Religion*.
 . Farias, M., and Lalljee, M. (under review). Holistic Individualism in the Age of Aquarius: Measuring Individualism/Collectivism in New Age, Catholic and Non-Religious Groups.
 . Farias, M., and Lalljee, M. (under review). Magical Thinking and the Interpretation of Everyday Events.
 . Farias, M. and Granqvist, P. (in preparation). Chapter: The psychology of the New Age. In *Handbook of New Age*, edited by D. Kemp. To be published by Brill.
 . Farias, M., Santos, T., and Soares, P. (2002). Religion in Portugal. In Gordon Melton and Martin Baumann (eds.) *Religions of the World: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Beliefs and Practices* (4 Vols.) Santa Barbara, Denver, Oxford: ABC CLIO.
 . Farias, M., and Santos, T. (1999). New Religious Movements in Portugal: Past, Present and Future. *Sociedade e Estado*, volume XIV - n° 01. University of Brasilia. (In Portuguese).
 - Farias, M. (1999). The siege of Oporto's Coliseum - Portuguese Media and New Religious Movements. *Centre for Studies on New Religions, Texts and Documents*: [Http://www.cesnur.org](http://www.cesnur.org).

Reviews

- . Farias, M. (2005). New Age: A Guide. Alternative Spiritualities from Aquarian Conspiracy to Next Age, by Daren Kemp. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 44 (1), 113.
 . Farias, M. and Coelho, C. (2000). The Last laugh: a new philosophy of near-death experiences, apparitions and the paranormal, by Raymond Moody. *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, Vol. 7, No 5.

Reviewer (Journals)

- . Graduate Journal of Social Sciences (since May 2003)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- . Farias, Miguel (2005). "A Psychological Study of New Age Practices and Beliefs". Invited Seminar at the Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge, February 17th, 2005.

- . Farias, Miguel, and Lalljee, Mansur (2003). "Magic and the decline of religion: A Psychological study of the New Age movement." Paper presented at the *Conference of the International Association of Psychology and Religion*. University of Glasgow, August 28-31, 2003.
- . Farias, Miguel (2003) Sesssion Convenor: "New Approaches to Old Questions: Sociological and Psychological Studies of the New Age Movement and Individual". *Alternative Spiritualities and New Age Studies Conference*. 30 May to Sunday 1 June 2003. The Open University, Milton Keynes, England.
- . Farias, Miguel, and Lalljee, Mansur (2003). "A Social-Psychological Study of the New Age Movement". Paper presented at *Text and Religious Contexts: Conference of the British Sociological Association, Sociology of Religion Study Group*. Plater College, Oxford, 9-12 April, 2003.
- . Farias, Miguel, and Lalljee, Mansur (2002). "Holistic individualism in the Age of Aquarius: Examining the Individualism-Collectivism construct within culture in the New Age Movement and Catholicism." Poster presented at the *13th General Meeting of the European Association of Experimental Social Psychology*. San Sebastian, Spain, June 26-29, 2002.
- . Farias, Miguel (2001). "I am an illusion: Self-concepts and values of New Age individuals vs practising Catholics". Seminar presented at the *Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford*. 2nd of October, 2001.
- . Farias, Miguel (2001). "Who am I? Self-concepts, goal structures and values in traditional versus holistic religious individuals". Paper presented at the *XXVth International Society for the Sociology of Religion Conference*. Ixtapan de La Sal, Mexico, 20-24th of August.
- . Santos, T., Farias, M., and Coelho, C. (2000). "Esoteric beliefs and political attitudes of students at the University of Lisbon". Paper presented at the *Lusophone Conference of Social Sciences*, University of Oporto, August 2000. (In Portuguese).
- . Baptista, T., Coelho, C., and Farias, M. (2000). "The effects of prayer: a study in the clinical evolution of patients in a cardiothoracic hospital unit". Poster presented at *BLAL's 3rd Symposium "Behind and Beyond the Brain"*, Casa do Médico, Oporto, April 2000.
- . Farias, Miguel H. (1999). "A fire that burns unseen - Paradoxical characteristics of religious experiences and the search for freedom in contemporary religion". Paper presented at the *IX Conference of Religious Alternatives in Latin America*, Institute of Philosophy and Social Sciences, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, September 1999. (In Portuguese).
- . Farias, Miguel H. (1999). "The siege of Oporto's Coliseum - Portuguese Media and New Religious Movements". Paper presented at the *Centre for Studies on New Religions 13th International Conference*, at the Faculty of Bryn Athyn, June 2-4, Philadelphia, USA.

MEMBERSHIP

- . Founding member of *Númena* – Research Centre on Human and Social Sciences, Lisbon. Since 2000.
- . Member of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (since 1999).

OTHER

- . Organiser of the Social Psychology seminars at the Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford (2003)
- . Organiser of two international conferences, several seminars and workshops at the Department of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Lisbon (1994-1997)
- . President of the Oxford University Portuguese Society (2003)
- . Member of the Portuguese Society of Authors (since 2000)