

**Richard C. Carrier, Ph.D.**  
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**EDUCATION:**

**Columbia University** (New York, NY)

**Ph.D.** (Ancient History) October 2008  
*Dissertation:* "Attitudes Toward the Natural Philosopher in the  
Early Roman Empire (100 B.C. to 313 A.D.)"  
*Committee:* W.V. Harris, R. Billows, M.L. Jones, G. Williams, K. Vogt

**M.Phil.** (Ancient History) May 2000  
*Majors:* Greco-Roman Philosophy, Religion, and Historiography  
*Examiners:* W.V. Harris, R.S. Bagnall, R.A. Billows, A.D.E. Cameron

**M.A.** (Ancient History) June 1998

**University of California Berkeley** (Berkeley, CA)

**B.A.** (major in History with a minor in Classical Civilization) June 1997

**Ventura College** (Ventura, CA)

**IGETC** (Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum) June 1995

**United States Coast Guard**

Duty Gunner's Mate Certification 1992  
Flight Deck Fire Fighter Certification  
Division Damage Control Petty Officer Certification  
LAMPS Aviation Ordnance Team Qualification

Digital Electronics Training (San Diego, CA) 1991  
Sonar Technician School (San Diego, CA)

Basic Military Training (Cape May, NJ) November 1990

**LANGUAGES** (*translation competency*):

French • German • Latin • Ancient Greek (including papyrology and paleography)

**TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS:**

History of Science and Technology (Greco-Roman and Comparative) • Intellectual and Economic History of the Early Roman Empire • Roman Philosophy • Modern Philosophy of Naturalism • Origins of Christianity (Cultural and Historical) • Greco-Roman Historiography (Authors and Methods)

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:**

Extensive use of libraries at major universities and seminaries, digital databases (including the Thesaurus Linguae Graecae, Brepols Latin Texts, L'Année Philologique), artifact examination and photographing at the British Museum, papyrus and manuscript analysis (from both originals and microfilms), and personal consultation with relevant experts.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

**Columbia University** (New York, NY) 2000—2003

**Librarian's Assistant** (Electronic Texts Service)

Taught digital scanning, OCR, and text analysis, and use of related software and hardware to individuals, small groups, and classes.

**Columbia University** (New York, NY) 1997—2000

**Graduate Student Instructor** (Graduate School of Arts and Sciences)

Assisted professors in teaching “The Romans and their Empire: 754 B.C. to A.D. 564” and “Survey of Ancient Greek History: 800 to 146 B.C.” Lectured to classes, led multiple weekly discussion sections, created and operated classroom visuals, maintained course web pages, designed handouts and online learning aids, and graded exams.

**Ventura Community College** (Ventura, CA) 1993—1995

**Tutor** (Campus Education Assistance Center)

Tutored small groups on a weekly basis in statistics, geology, philosophy, world religions, physical and cultural anthropology, and American, African, and World history.

**EDUCATION-RELATED EMPLOYMENT:**

**Columbia University** (New York, NY) 1998—2003

**Librarian's Assistant** (Electronic Texts Service)

Provided reference help with electronic media, research, and full-text databases and assisted patrons with digital scanning projects.

**UC Berkeley** (Berkeley, California) 1995—1997  
**Librarian's Assistant** (Psychology Library)  
Worked in circulation, records, acquisitions, and shelving.

**ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS:**

Association of Ancient Historians  
American Philological Association  
History of Science Society  
Phi Beta Kappa Society

**AWARDS:**

Columbia University President's Fellowship	1998—2001
Catherine S. Sims Fellowship	1999—2000
Richard Hofstadter Fellowship	1997
Highest Distinction in General Scholarship (UC Berkeley)	1997
Dean's List (UC Berkeley)	1995—1997
Outstanding Scholarship Award in Anthropology (Ventura College)	1995
California Alumni Association Leadership Scholarship	1995
Honorable Discharge (USCG) – Petty Officer 3rd Class (ST3 / E-4)	1992
National Defense Service Medal	1991
Navy Letter of Commendation	1991
Honorman Certificate for Scholastic Achievement & Proven Leadership	1991
USCG Marksman's Ribbon	1990
Principal's Academic Achievement Award (Chaffey High School)	1986
Outstanding Accomplishment & Excellence in Science Award (ibid.)	1986

**CONFERENCE PAPERS:**

“Miracles and the Historical Method.” Paper presented at conference *The Trouble with Miracles*, sponsored by Center for Inquiry East. Montclair, New Jersey (20 May 2001).

“Between *Physicus* and *Scientist*: Transitional Ideas of the Natural Philosopher in the 18th Century.” Paper presented at *A Symposium on Classical, Hellenistic, and Late Antique Texts in the Eighteenth Century*. Columbia University, New York (20 September 2003).

“Scribal Error and the Destruction of the Library of Alexandria.” Paper presented at *Repetition and Error* conference, sponsored by the Department of Classics, University of California at Berkeley (12 March 2005).

“Bayes’ Theorem for Beginners: Formal Logic and Its Relevance to Historical Method.” Paper presented at conference *Sources of the Jesus Tradition: An Inquiry*, sponsored by the Committee for the Scientific Examination of Religion. Center for Inquiry Transnational, Amherst, New York (5-7 December 2008).

**PUBLICATIONS:**

“Do Religious Life and Critical Thought Need Each Other? A Reply to William Reinsmith.” *Inquiry: Critical Thinking Across the Disciplines* 16.1 (Autumn 1996): 67-75.

“Flash! Fox News Reports that Aliens May Have Built the Pyramids of Egypt!” *Skeptical Inquirer* 23.5 (September-October 1999): 46-50.

“Are the Odds Against the Origin of Life Too Great?” *Reports of the National Center for Science Education* 20.4 (Jul/Aug 2000): 25-34.

“Pseudohistory in Jerry Vardaman’s Magic Coins: The Nonsense of Micrographic Letters.” *Skeptical Inquirer* 26.2 (Mar-Apr 2002): 39-41, 61.

“More on Vardaman’s Microletters.” *Skeptical Inquirer* 26.4 (Jul/Aug 2002): 60-61.

“Epicurus.” *Encyclopedia of the Ancient World* (Salem Press 2002): 2.503-04.

“Lucretius.” *ibid.*: 2.738.

“Philodemus.” *ibid.*: 3.897.

“Second Sophistic.” *ibid.*: 3.995.

“Soranus of Ephesus.” *ibid.*: 3.1025-26.

“The Guarded Tomb of Jesus and Daniel in the Lion’s Den: An Argument for the Plausibility of Theft.” *Journal of Higher Criticism* 8.2 (Fall 2001): 304-18.

“The Function of the Historian in Society.” *The History Teacher* 35.4 (Aug 2002): 519-26.

“Hitler’s *Table Talk*: Troubling Finds.” *German Studies Review* 26.3 (Oct 2003): 561-76.

“Whence Christianity? A Meta-Theory for the Origins of Christianity.” *Journal of Higher Criticism* 11.1 (Spr 2005): 22-34.

“The Argument from Biogenesis: Probabilities Against a Natural Origin of Life.” *Biology and Philosophy* 19.5 (Nov 2004): 739-64.

*Sense and Goodness without God: A Defense of Metaphysical Naturalism* (AuthorHouse 2005).

“The Spiritual Body of Christ and the Legend of the Empty Tomb.” *The Empty Tomb: Jesus Beyond the Grave*, ed. by Robert M. Price & Jeffery Jay Lowder (Prometheus 2005): 105-232.

“The Plausibility of Theft.” *ibid.*: 349-68.

“The Burial of Jesus in Light of Jewish Law.” *ibid.*: 369-92.

“Fatal Flaws in Michael Almeida’s Alleged ‘Defeat’ of Rowe’s New Evidential Argument from Evil.” *Philo* 10.1 (Spring-Summer 2007): 85-90.

*Not the Impossible Faith: Why Christianity Didn’t Need a Miracle to Succeed* (Lulu 2009).

“Bayes’ Theorem for Beginners: Formal Logic and Its Relevance to Historical Method.” *Caesar: A Journal for the Critical Study of Religion and Human Values* 3.1 (2009): 26-35. [Reproduced in R. Joseph Hoffmann, ed., *Sources of the Jesus Tradition: Separating History from Myth* (Prometheus 2010)]

“Why the Resurrection is Unbelievable,” *The Christian Delusion: Why Faith Fails*, ed. by John Loftus (Prometheus 2010).

“Christianity Was Not Responsible for Modern Science.” *ibid.*