



University
of Victoria



Pointing to Things Unseen: A Gestural Approach to Religious Signs

Paul Arnold

Thursday, June 24

12:00-1:00 p.m. PDT

Meeting URL: <https://uvic.zoom.us/j/89147884948?pwd=U2s-raHZGNHRPMnNLaVQ2R3h1M0YyZz09>

A pointing gesture is one of the most fundamental and deceptively complex communicative actions that we perform in everyday life. Frequently overlooked, however, is the role that pointing gestures play in our understanding of religious signs. Religious signs are often described as “pointers” or said to “point” to something beyond the sign itself. This lecture looks at the nature and function of pointing gestures to better understand why they are so often used as a metaphor for religious signs.

Paul Arnold is a PhD candidate in Religious Studies at McMaster University. His research explores the relationship between bodily gestures and religious thought in Roman Catholic rituals.

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