

# Curriculum Vitae for Steven Bird.

## Professor, Taylor University.

January 2024

Taylor University  
Department of Sociology  
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### Education:

- Ph.D. August 1993, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN  
Thesis: Religion and Modernity in the United States: A Rational Choice Analysis of Conflict and Harmony. Roger Finke, supervising professor.
- M.A. May 1990, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Thesis: Catholic Political Affiliation and Voting Behavior: A Test of Assimilation. Rodney Stark, supervising professor.
- B.S. August 1986, Boise State University, Boise, ID  
Thesis: Lagged Effects of Capital Punishment: Testing Deterrence Theory.

### Work experience:

- Executive Director of Research, Taylor University Center for Scripture Engagement  
2010 - present
- Professor, Taylor University  
2002 - present  
Tenure effective in 1999
- Associate Dean of Assessment and Quality Improvement, Taylor University  
2007-2008
- Associate Professor, Taylor University  
1998 - 2002
- Assistant Professor, Taylor University  
1993 - 1998
- Director of Technical Support, MicroCase Corporation (statistical analysis software company)  
1989 - 1992
- Research Technician, Governor's Office of Highway Safety, Idaho Department of Transportation  
1986 - 1988

### Current Courses Taught at Taylor University:

(Teaching load is 24 credits)  
Introduction to Global Societies  
Contemporary Social Issues/Problems  
Principles of Research & Analysis  
Social Research Methods  
Applied Social Statistics  
Senior Thesis  
Directed Research

#### Additional courses taught periodically:

Inequality & Stratification  
Sociology of Religion

### Publications:

- Bird, Steven. (2016). Christian college students and emerging adulthood. *Christian Education Journal*, 13(2), 293-314.
- Bird, Steven. (2013). Scripture Engagement and Living Life as a Message. In P. Hoggarth, F. Macdonald, B. Mitchell, & K. Jorgensen (ed.s), Bible in Mission. (238-246). Oxford: Regnum Press.
- Bird, Steven. (2010). Education. In C. Tweedell (Ed.), Sociology: Using Sociology to Become a World Changer. Second Edition.

Bird, Steven (2007). Developing Departmental AQIP Assessment Plans: Concepts, Model, and Examples. A Collection of Papers on Self-Study and Institutional Improvement, Volume Four: Leading For the Common Good: Quality Assurance, Quality Improvement. The Higher Learning Commission.

Bird, Steven. (2003). Education. In C. Tweedell (Ed.), Sociology: Using Sociology to Become a World Changer.

Bird, Steven. (2002). Seeking Community: Creating Effective Lifestyle Agreements. Growth: The Journal of the Association for Christians in Student Development, 2. 4-22.

Bird, Steven. (1995). Review of "Education and Media" from the book *Fundamentalisms and Society: Reclaiming the Sciences, the Family, and Education*. (The Fundamentalism Project, volume 2). Martin E. Marty and Scott Appleby ed.s. Review of Religious Research, 36:4.

### **Conference presentations**

Bird, Steven. *How do we explain Christian College Students Who are Spiritual but not Religious?* at the national meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. October 2017.

Bird, Steven. *Assessing the soul: Lessons learned from research at 44 Christian colleges* at the national meetings of the Religious Research Association. October 2017.

Bird, Steven. *Christian College Students and Emerging Adulthood* at the national meetings of the Religious Research Association. October 2015.

Bird, Steven. *Scripture Engagement Research: What We've Learned and How Doing Some Research Might Help You*. Eurasia Media and Distribution Consultation, Netherlands, April 2015

Bird, Steven. *The Scripture Engagement of Students at Christian Colleges* at the Bible in American Life Conference. IUPUI. August 2014.

Bird, Steven. *The Effects of Understanding of Sacred Grounding on Evangelical Christian College Seniors' views of Inequality and Justice* at the national meetings of the Religious Research Association. November 2012.

Bird, Steven. *Teaching Sociological Research Methods Using Computer Technologies* at the National Meetings of the American Sociological Association. August, 1998.

Bird, Steven. *Linking Courses and Campuses Through Computer Conferencing* a roundtable presentation at the meetings of the North Central Sociological Association. April, 1996.

Bird, Steven. *Teaching Sociology of Religion: It's not What, it's Why* at the national meetings of the Religious Research Association. October, 1994.

### **Additional Presentations**

Bird, Steven and Collins, P. *Spiritual life at thirteen Christian colleges: Results of the 2013 Christian Life Survey* at the Association of Christians in Student Development annual meetings. June 2014.

Bird, Steven and Collins, P. *Scripture Engagement and Focus on God* at the Association of Youth Ministries Educators. October 2013.

Bird, Steven and Phil Collins. *Uncovering Scripture Engagement: A report on current research at the Taylor University Center for Scripture Engagement*. The Uncover Conference North American Forum of Bible Agencies. November, 2011.

Bird, Steven and Phil Collins, *Current Research on Scripture Engagement* at the annual meetings of the International Forum of Bible Agencies. April 2010.

Bird, Steven, *Developing Departmental AQIP Assessment Plans: Concepts, Model, and Examples* at the Higher Learning Commission AQIP Colloquium. April 2007.

Bird, Steven, Tim Herrmann, & Skip Trudeau. *Combining Assessment, Organizational, and Moral Development Data Sets to Assess the Factors Related to Character Outcomes from the College Experience* at the 2003 Institute on College Student Values. February, 2003.

### **Applied Sociology Reports and Presentations:**

Bird, Steven (forthcoming 2024). A comprehensive report on the beliefs and behaviors of committed Christians in the United States (to be provided at the Center for Scripture Engagement website). This report summarizes the patterns in the spirituality of 17,442 Christians in the United States who were surveyed between fall 2020 and spring 2023.

Bird Steven (2023). Scripture Engagement Research: Selected findings. Taylor University Colleagues' College plenary address.

Bird, Steven (2022). The Future of Christianity in America: Understanding the Generational Differences in Spirituality in the United States. Presented as the Taylor University 2022 Distinguished Lecture.

Bird, Steven (2021). A series of three reports and statistical briefs were produced for the Center for Scripture Engagement based on data collection and analysis for 6,909 U.S. Christians who participated in the survey in fall of 2020 and spring of 2021

*How do American Christians approach the Bible?*

*What are American Christians Spiritual Lifestyles?*

*What are American Christians Spiritual Lives Centered on?*

Bird, Steven (February, 2020). A day of workshop presentations for the Taylor University Engaging Teaching Today Conference. These presentations were focused on the shifting clientele in higher education due to the shift to late modernity and emerging adulthood.

Bird, Steven (2015). A series of 13 reports and statistical briefs were produced for the Center for Scripture Engagement based on data collection and analysis for over 6,000 students at 22 Christian colleges.

Bird, Steven (2014). Emerging Adulthood and the Taylor Students. Taylor University Colleagues' College plenary address.

Bird, Steven (2013). A series of reports (three), statistical briefs (eight), and presentation videos (ten) were produced for the Center for Scripture Engagement.

Bird, Steven. (2008). A series of reports (two) and statistical summary briefs (three) were produced for the systematic evaluation of the Taylor University Athletics Department:

*Athletics Programs Evaluations*

*Coaches Survey Results*

*Evaluations of Athletes and Teams*

*Student Athletes' Program Evaluations*

*Student Self Conceptions*

Bird, Steven. (2008). [Grant County Secondhand Smoke Survey Results](#). Grant County Tobacco Prevention Agency.

Bird, Steven. (2002). Report on research and data analysis of congregational foci and perceptions within a local church.

Bird, Steven and Ronald Powell. (1999). [Allen County Drug Court Intervention Program Evaluation Report](#) Fort Wayne, IN: Center for Justice and Urban Leadership, Taylor University

(This report was the outcomes assessment for the ACDCIP for their report to the Department of Justice.)

### **Council of Christian Colleges and Universities conference presentations:**

Trudeau, Skip, Stephen Bedi, Steven Bird. *Collaborative Research: Bridging the Academic Affairs/Student Affairs Chasm* at the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities Assessment Conference. October, 2000

Bird, Steven. *Getting Students Involved: Increasing Interaction With Each Other and the Content Through Interactive Software* at the Coalition for Christian Colleges and Universities technology conference. October, 1996.

Bedi Stephen, Steven Bird, Robert Craton, Jim Kleist, and Edwin Welch. *An Institutional Model for Planning and Developing Interactive Video Courses* at the Coalition for Christian Colleges and Universities technology conference. October, 1996.

Bird, Steven. *Using the Picture-Tel Two-Way Interactive Video System* at the Coalition for Christian Colleges and Universities technology conference. October, 1996.

### **Professional consulting presentations:**

Indiana Drug Court Professionals Association training meetings, September 2000

Bird, Steven. *The Methodological and Political realities of Drug Court Assessment*, Indianapolis. September 2000.

Anderson University presentations, October 1999

*Using Analysis Programs in the Class Room.*

*Using A Data Archive for Teaching.*

West Virginia State College Division of Social Sciences presentations, October 1998

*Using Statistical Analysis Programs with Students.*

*Using Front of the Classroom Software.*

*Teaching Statistics Classes Using Software Packages.*

*Using Data Archives.*

*Software Workbooks: Their Strengths and Weaknesses.*

Northwest Nazarene College presentations, October 1997

*The Computer in the College Classroom.*

*Using Asynchronous Conferencing to Strengthen the Classroom.*

### **Additional Research Activity:**

Assessing the first-year experience at Taylor. Project initiated by the university Provost. Completed fall semester 2023.

Faculty views of Provost responsibilities and duties survey. Initiated by the incoming President. Report completed May 2021.

The Christian Life Survey (a spiritual self-assessment tool I developed) is now deployed through links at Bible Gateway (since August 3 2020). Approximately 35,000 people engaged with the survey as of March 2023. The majority (~80 percent) are from the USA, while the remainder are from a variety of international locations.

Using the Christian Life Survey, data was collected from over 18,000 students at 46 Christian colleges across the years 2012 through 2018.

Comprehensive Writing Evaluation Research. First wave data collection (surveys and interviews) 2005-2006. Second data collection in spring 2009. Initial data was collected through extensive quantitative and qualitative methods to assess writing performance change in the university. A follow up survey of matched questions was conducted in spring 2009 to do a trend analysis of seniors who were freshmen in spring of 2006. Additional data collection and analysis done in 2012 and 2013.

The Marion Quality of Life Study. 2005 to 2009. A random probability based phone survey of residents of Marion Indiana that gathered data on residents' perceptions of the quality of city services, their patterns of activities, the nature and extent of city problems, and other factors that represent their perceived quality of life.

The Faithful Change Research Project. 1998-2002. Begun under the auspices of the CCCU and funded through the Templeton Foundation, this research project involved four years of data collection at 7 different CCCU colleges. Data collection included multi-hour qualitative interviews and comprehensive quantitative surveying on issues of faith development and transformation.

Data base construction and analysis for community child advocacy group Step Ahead (Marion, Indiana). Spring 1998.

### **Assessment Research (projects done beyond normal data collection for the Associate Dean of Assessment position):**

The Taylor University Alumni Survey. 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013. A multi-cohort data collection on the satisfaction of alumni and their academic, social, and spiritual outcomes.

First-Year Student Expectations and Satisfaction Survey. 2008, 2009. Developed and administered a survey of first year students at the university that assessed their expectations, experienced realities, and satisfaction with diverse aspects of life at the university.

Emergency Contact Technology Survey. 2008. Project initiated through the Provost's Office. Surveyed the full student population of the university to determine their use of diverse technologies and identify the best choices for emergency contact through the Taylor emergency plans.

### **Awards**

The Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award. Taylor University, 2006.