

Dr. Laurence H. Kant
Bio

B.A., Tufts University, 1978

M.T.S., Harvard Divinity School, 1981

M.A., Yale University, Department of Religious Studies, 1982

Ph.D., Yale University, Department of Religious Studies, 1993

Dr. Laurence H. Kant was born and reared near Boston. He has received numerous honors and fellowships, including the Boston Greek Prize, the Rome Prize (*Prix de Rome*) in Classics at the American Academy in Rome, an NEH summer stipend, and several awards in Jewish Studies. He also was a Visiting Scholar at Harvard University. The Yale Divinity School Center for Faith and Culture recognized his course, "Thinking Theologically" as a semi-finalist recipient of their "Faith as a Way of Life Award." He has taught at several institutions and served on the faculties of the Department of Near Eastern Studies at Cornell, the Division of Humanities of York University (in Toronto), and Lexington Theological Seminary. He has also been a Visiting Scholar at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Kant is trained in many languages, including Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Aramaic, Italian, French, and German, and has lived abroad and traveled widely.

Dr. Kant is an historian of religion with wide-ranging scholarly interests. His studies, publications, talks, and teaching include early Christianity and Judaism, Hebrew Bible, New Testament, spirituality and mysticism, religious symbols, Jewish Studies, Israel and the Middle East, world religions, inscriptions, art and archaeology, languages, ethics, violence/genocide, theology, and film and literature. He is a member of numerous professional organizations.

A Jewish scholar of religion, Dr. Kant has a particular interest in examining Israel's relationship to the Middle East and Mediterranean as part of the long arc of cultural and religious history extending to antiquity and the Bible.

Dr. Kant is active in interfaith efforts with a variety of religious groups. He believes strongly in connecting the scholarly and spiritual life. Deeply committed to Judaism and his heritage, Dr. Kant has a long history of working in Jewish-Christian relations. He has engaged in reflective, public conversation about difficult ethical and spiritual issues, as exemplified by the group he started, "Wisdom in the Public Square."

Dr. Kant is a scholar, teacher, writer, poet, and mystic who seeks to help others learn how to learn, guides them in interpreting the world, and assists them as they create meaning and purpose in their lives.

Dr. Kant is married to Dr. Dianne M. Bazell, a scholar of medieval religion (Harvard, Ph.D., 1991) and a leader in postsecondary education reform.