

Reading List 1:

- Cardena, E., L. Steven., J. Lynn, S. Krippner (eds.) (2000). *Varieties of Anomalous Experience Examining the Scientific Evidence*. American Psychological Association.
Articles on various types of religious, 'paranormal' and related experiences, and how they might be studied scientifically.
- Cox, J. (1994) *Expressing the Sacred: An Introduction to the Phenomenology of Religion*. University of Zimbabwe Press.
- Connelly, P. (ed.) (1998) *Approaches to the Study of Religion*. London, Cassell.
Anthology which includes a useful introduction by Ninian Smart, a contribution on phenomenology by Clive Erricker, and articles on anthropological, feminist, and other approaches.
- Flood, G. (1999) *Beyond Phenomenology*. Cambridge University Press.
Discusses ways of engaging with Religious Studies other than phenomenological approaches, including postmodern critical social theory and cultural theory.
- Hinnells, J.R. (ed.) (2005) *The Routledge Companion to the Study of Religion*. London, Routledge.
- King, U. (ed.) (1990) *Turning Points in Religious Studies*. London, T&T Clark
Anthology, particularly useful for the section on developments in the field in relation to world religions; and within the UK specifically.
- Laski, M. (1961) *Ecstasy: A Study of Some Secular and Religious Experiences*. London, Cresset.
Examines accounts of religious experience in literary texts, and via an original questionnaire-based survey.
- McCutcheon, R.T. (ed.) (1999) *The Insider/Outsider Problem in the Study of Religion: A Reader*. London, Continuum.
Another anthology. See especially articles in Part II, 'The Autonomy of Religious Experience.'
- Paden, W. (1988) *Religious Worlds: The Comparative Study of Religion*. Boston, Beacon Press.
Concerns the history of scholarship in the field and changing trends in theory and methodology.
- Pye, M. (1972) *Comparative Religion: An Introduction Through Source Materials*. Newton Abbot, David and Charles.
Part III, 'Religious States of Mind' is the most relevant here. Discusses sub-categories of religious experience, including prophetic, mystical, conversion, altered states brought on by ascetic practices, etc.
- Schmidt, L.E. (2003) 'The making of modern "mysticism"'. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 71/2 (June), 273-302.
A socio-historical perspective of the creation of the 'category' of 'mysticism' in

Western scholarship.

Sharf, R. (1998) 'Experience.' In M. C. Taylor (ed.) *Critical Terms in Religious Studies*, 94-115. University of Chicago Press.

Sharpe, E. (1975) *Comparative Religion: A History*. London, Duckworth.
Covers similar ground to Paden, though not as recent.

----- (1983) *Understanding Religion*. London, Duckworth.

Smart, N. (1996) *Dimensions of the Sacred*. London, Harper Collins.
A general study of the world's religions and their components (including religious experience). Smart's other books are also relevant, particularly *The Religious Experience* (1969; vt. *The Religious Experience of Mankind*), and *The World's Religions* (1998).