

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES COLLOQUIUM

Hosted by the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

Co-sponsored by the Department of History, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, and Engage

## THE MORMON GIANT

A live documentary about religion and wrestling



### David Walker, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

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University of California, Santa Barbara

**Wednesday, April 8, 2026**

**4:00 p.m.**

**KUC Theater**

*The Mormon Giant* explores the relationship between religion and professional wrestling in the 20th century. Focusing on wrestlers with Mormon “gimmicks,” the film shows how they presented as “heels” (villains) or “faces” (heroes) in auditoriums throughout North America and abroad, and how such representations proved usable (or not) to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints writ large. *The Mormon Giant* narrates the “face-turn” of Mormonism in 20th-century American popular culture, while showing also how religion and wrestling generally work together—how they shape and reflect each other—in the modern world.

**This event will feature live narration by David Walker and live soundtracking by Timothy Albro.**

**Event is free and open to the public.**

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