

Taylor Halverson, Ph.D.

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Learner | Author | Speaker | Business Professor | Consultant | Innovator | Tour Leader |
Business Developer | Scripture Scholar | Networker | Learning Designer | Entrepreneur

I build leaders and businesses.

I guide leaders and businesses to find and act on the best ideas and tools so that they experience enduring happiness.

For a comprehensive professional portfolio, including my full publication list including 25 books and more than 300 articles, visit <https://taylorhalverson.com/publications/>.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Instructional Systems Technology, Indiana University (2006)

Ph.D. Judaism & Christianity in Antiquity, Indiana University (2006)

M.S. Instructional Systems Technology, Indiana University (2004)

M.A. Biblical Studies, Yale University (2001)

B.A. Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Brigham Young University (1997)

WORK EXPERIENCE

2020 – Present: Associate Teaching Professor of Entrepreneurship, Marriott School of Business; Rollins Center for Entrepreneurship & Technology Mentoring Coordinator, Brigham Young University. I teach entrepreneurship courses in the Management department <https://marriottschool.byu.edu/ent/>; I coordinate mentoring experiences for hundreds of students through the Entrepreneurship center <https://marriottschool.byu.edu/cet/>; I also manage our validation grants. I contribute to the strategic direction of the Entrepreneurship programs at BYU. And I network with and build relationships with hundreds of successful entrepreneurs and donors to encourage them to give back of their time, resources, and talents to the students and university.

2023 – Present. Enki Growth Partners. Co-Founder. Our company focuses on sourcing, buying, developing, and selling service sector businesses valued between \$1MM - \$5MM.

2019 – Present. Co-Founder (Taylor Halverson Travel; Exodus Tours). I design and lead immersive learning travel experiences throughout the world (e.g., India, China, Central America, & Europe). My special focus is the Holy Land (e.g., Israel, Jordan, & Egypt). My clients have consistently rated the experiences I deliver as life-changing.

2017 – Present. Co-Founder (Halverson Advisors). Our company focuses on leadership and business consulting, publishing, and learning design.

2019 – 2023. Chief Experience Officer and Guide ([Utah Luxury Tours](#)). We are the premiere luxury customized travel company for Utah and the Southwest. I provide strategic direction and growth to the company and lead transformative tours to help clients embrace the unbounded and unexpected beauties of Utah and the West. My passion is to unfold the unmatched canvas of the West in such a way that travelers more fully discover themselves while lost in the wilds of this amazing earth. Travelers have loved my irresistible enthusiasm, encyclopedic knowledge, spirit of adventure, sense of fun, and immersive wonder. Sold my interest in the business March 2023.

2016 – 2023. Co-Founder and Chief Innovation Officer ([Vereo Impact](#)). Our company works with the manufacturing sector in Utah to drive manufacturing effectiveness and efficiencies and revenue acceleration guided by transformative leadership. We have won multi-million dollars state and federal grants to support the growth of manufacturing success in Utah. Sold my interest in the business summer 2023.

2011 – 2023: Founder and co-director of the BYU Creativity, Innovation, & Design Group (Group is on Hiatus as F2023). One day in the Fall of 2011 I was walking across campus, thinking about the two core skills that we teach students at Universities: critical thinking and reasoning through the scientific method, and artistic/humanistic appreciation and expression. I realized that learners also need to be trained in the structured rigors of problem solving through creativity, innovation, and design. I proposed and launched a new organization within the University with the express purpose of starting a new campus wide innovation center and design school. I recruited people to this vision from all over campus, working across an array of disciplines. After several years of concerted, patient, behind-the-scenes efforts we successfully solved for all the major impediments to significant change at BYU (1) no new funding, (2) no new space, (3) no new faculty slots, and (4) no new programs. We found a donor who was willing to contribute \$15MM with the promise of more (he is worth several billion dollars). We collaborated with the library, who was willing to repurpose thousands of square feet for a new innovation space. We identified more than 80 existing faculty and staff on campus who were already involved in teaching, researching, and leading in creativity, innovation, and design. And we identified more than 200 already existing courses on campus on the topics of creativity, innovation, design thinking, and entrepreneurship. The CID group continues to be a major driver, sponsor, and coordinator of innovation efforts at BYU. <http://innovation.byu.edu/>

2012 – Present: Co-founder and co-director of the BYU [Virtual Scripture Group](#). (My involvement on hiatus as of 2023). I created a cross-disciplinary team representing diverse and disparate departments that had never worked together before: LDS Priesthood Department, LDS Publishing Services Division, BYU Religious Education, BYU School of Technology, BYU Center for Teaching & Learning, and BYU Computer Science and Computer Animation. I directed the development of multimillion dollar interactive visualization projects with multiple sub projects. I provided direction, strategy, and vision to professionals as well as to students. I collaborated with and organized working teams across various large and complex organizations comprised of a many different professionals and learners of varying skills and personal motivations. I successfully negotiated licensing agreements between two large bureaucratic organizations (LDS Church and BYU). I led efforts to successfully release the beta version of an interactive 3D immersive model of Jesus' Jerusalem with more than 30,000 product downloads in April 2017 (the release month). Our work was later featured and incorporated into a *National Geographic* project on Jerusalem.

2015 – Present. Executive Committee [Book of Mormon Central \(BMC\)](#). (My involvement on hiatus as of 2023). I was one of the early executives at Book of Mormon Central, which exists to spread the light and goodness of the gospel of Jesus Christ to as many people as possible. Through my nearly two decades of vision and effort to bring an interactive scripture study experience to life, I teamed with Book of Mormon Central to launch the [ScripturePlus app](#), with some 250,000 downloads in only a few years. Our app logs more than 1MM study events each week. I'm also the founder and co-host of the YouTube series [Come Follow Me Insights](#) (produced by Book of Mormon Central) that is watched by hundreds of thousands weekly around the world. I provide strategic direction and coordination to a team of 10 full-timers, 19 part-timers, and more than 40 volunteers. I'm a dedicated networker and collaborator, finding individuals and organizations to whom I can communicate the vision of BMC, and convince them to support the cause. Collectively, our organization reaches more than one million people each week globally. <https://bookofmormoncentral.org/>

2012 – 2020: Adviser to the BYU [Rollins Center for Entrepreneurship & Technology](#). In 2012, the BYU Rollin's Center for Entrepreneurship & Technology invited me to serve as an Adviser to the program. Since then, I've contributed to the visioning and administering of the #2 entrepreneurship program in the nation including: curriculum, networking events, competition, and outreach efforts. In my role, I have been a persistent collaborator and networker in the larger entrepreneurial and business community throughout Utah. I am well connected in the Utah economic development community. Among my friends are many who are company founders, executives, non-profit board leaders, and government leaders and officials.

2012 – 2016: BYU Innovation Academy Chair. Mentored and directed the BYU student organization "Innovation Academy" whose role was to propel, across campus, the development among learners of problem solving skills through design thinking and innovation. Thousands of students were exposed to the skills, attitudes, processes, tools, and potential of design thinking and innovation. <http://byuia.com/>

2009 – 2020: Faculty Consultant Center for Teaching & Learning, Brigham Young University. I designed and administered professional development programs for more than 1000 faculty, working closely with deans, department chairs, and other administrators in the following colleges and programs: Humanities, Social Sciences, Engineering & Technology, Library, Nursing, and International & Area Studies. I initiated and managed various creative initiatives to enhance learning at BYU. Yearly, I conducted professional development consultations with more than 500 BYU faculty and administrators. <http://ctl.byu.edu>

2009 – 2020: Part-time Faculty, Various Departments, Brigham Young University. I design & teach engagingly and effectively across a wide range of disciplines:

- *Marriott School of Business:* "Introduction to Entrepreneurship"; "Entrepreneurship Bootcamp"; "Innovation & Design Internship Projects"
- *School of Technology:* "History of Creativity in the Arts, Science, & Technology"; "Innovation & Design Thinking Boot Camp"
- *College of Fine Arts:* "Designing Innovative Scripture Study Tools"
- *College of Social Sciences:* "Mapping World War One"
- *College of Religion:* "Book of Mormon"; "Old Testament"
- *School of Education; College of Humanities; Honors College:* "History of Learning in the Arts, Science, & Technology"

2006 – 2012: Faculty Capella University. I taught in the Instructional Design for Online Learning Department: “Theories of Learning & Instruction” and served as a Doctoral Qualifying Exams Reviewer.

2006 – 2008: Corporate Instructional Designer Cisco (San Jose, CA). I designed and delivered instruction for internal corporate individuals at Cisco, in the fast-paced environment of the largest internet hardware company in the world.

2006 – 2008: Researcher & Translator Brigham Young University. I provided translation work and contributed Biblical scholarship on behalf of the BYU New Testament Translation Project.

2006: Part-time Faculty Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis. I designed and taught in the Religious Studies Department: “World Religions.”

2005: Instructor & Course Designer Indiana University. I designed and taught in the Religious Studies Department: “Resurrecting Abraham: Judaism, Christianity & Islam” and “Introduction to the Hebrew Bible.”

2004 – 2005: Teaching Assistant Indiana University. I served as a teaching assistant in the Religious Studies Department: “Introduction to the New Testament” and “Introduction to the Hebrew Bible”; and in the History Department: “Medieval Civilization.”

2002 – 2003: Program Assistant & Coordinator, Distance Masters Program, Indiana University Instructional Systems Technology Department. I designed and executed a plan to enhance the Instructional Systems Technology department’s Distance Masters Program. I persuaded executive administrators from the School of Education and the University to support the creation of new academic programs. The programs became some of the most successful academically and financially at IU’s School of Education.

2000 – 2001: Teaching Assistant Yale University. I served as a teaching assistant in the American Studies Department: “Formation of American Culture 1920-2001” and the History Department: “History of Medieval Europe 284-1000.”