Glasscock’s Religion & Culture Working Group Presents
Gregory Lee Cuéllar, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Old Testament

November 20, 2014-1:00 PM
Glasscock Center Library-Room 311

The British Museum as the Master Space of Biblical History

Professor Gregory Cuéllar will lecture on the early development of the British Museum. In the nineteenth century, the emergence of new disciplines such as geology, biology, anthropology, archeology, and history gave impetus to the British Museum’s transition from a storehouse of curiosities to a repository of truth. With each new acquisition, the museum became a centripetal site for empirical observation of material-cultural objects. Fostering a wider public appeal to the antiquities exhibited at the British Museum was the link between archaeology and Bible history. A notable instance came in the early 1800s when the Trustees of the British Museum, Parliament, publishing industries, and archaeologist Sir Austen Henry Layard converged to supply the public with corroborating pieces of evidence for Bible history. This nexus of affiliations went beyond benign curiosity and upkeep of social privileges. Inseverable from the British Museum’s identity in the 1840s was the nation’s competitive drive to monopolize the world’s antiquarian enterprise.

Sponsored by the Glasscock Center’s Religion & Culture Working Group

Co-chairs Daniel Schwartz, Ph.D. and Associate Professor Rebecca Hankins

RSVP Not required, but helpful to gauge interest