

This award supports graduate professional development goals with an emphasis on conference presentations.

Lilly Graduate Fellows Program, Cohort 4
Valparaiso University

Fall 2011-Spring 2014

The Lilly Graduate Fellow Program is a three-year program that joins select Christian students from across the country in an inter-disciplinary cohort that seeks to foster collaboration, promote personal and professional development, and expand in-depth thinking about Christianity in the academy. Through bi-weekly online seminars and annual conferences, cohort members engage texts and themes together that develop students' communication across institutional and disciplinary divides and enrich their view of Christian scholarship.

TEACHING INTERESTS

Trinity
Eschatology
Anthropology
Modern and postmodern philosophical impact
Tradition and dialogue in ethics
Ethical responsibility
Foundations of theology

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record:

Fundamentals of Theology

Fall 2016

This course provides an introduction to theology for students unfamiliar with the Christian tradition. It introduces students to questions of God, revelation, and faith through the Old and New Testaments and the formation of the early Church.

Foundations of Theology

Spring, 2016

Fall 2015

This course provides an introduction to theology through an examination of the narrative of salvation found in the Old and New Testaments as well as in the early Church. It is the first theology requirement of all undergraduates.

Teaching Assistant:

Christian Traditions II

Cyril O'Regan

Spring 2014

This course provides an historical overview from Luther to the Second Vatican Council. It is required for all majors in theology. In this course I assisted in grading daily responses, papers, and exams. I also gave a class lecture on Trent.

Love and the Christian Tradition

Francesca Murphy

Fall 2012

This course examines the idea of love as presented by the Christian tradition, exploring its roots in classical philosophy and modern presentations. It is an elective that fulfills the second theology requirement of all undergraduates. In this course I graded daily response papers and exams. I also lectured on Kierkegaard and the duty of Christian love.

Christian Traditions II

John Betz

Spring 2011

This course provides an historical overview from Luther to the Second Vatican Council. It is required for all majors in theology. In this class I graded daily responses and assisted in grading course papers and exams.

Foundations of Theology

John Betz

Fall 2010

This course provides an introduction to theology through an examination of the narrative of salvation found in the Old and New Testaments as well as in the early Church. It is the first

theology requirement of all undergraduates. In this class I graded daily responses and assisted in grading course papers and exams.

Research Assistant:

Summer Assistant	Mark Roche	Summer 2010
	German and Philosophy	
Undergraduate Assistant	Ken Sayre	Spring 2008
	Philosophy	
Undergraduate Assistant	Sean McGraw	Fall 2007
	Irish History	

Graduate Mentor:

Mentor for undergraduate group <i>Integritas</i>	Fall 2010-Spring 2011
Organized through the Center for Ethics and Culture, this group united three pillars of the Christian life: intellectual exploration of God, spiritual worship of God, and gospel service in the world. It accomplished these goals through faculty-lead seminars, masses and retreats, and various service opportunities focused on the corporeal works of mercy.	
Mentor for undergraduate group <i>Fides</i>	Fall 2009-Spring 2010
Organized through Campus Ministry, mentors lead small groups of students in a bible study and applied discussion of their first year experiences at the university.	

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

Theological Pedagogy	Spring 2015
Theology Department, University of Notre Dame	
One credit class on syllabus formation for Foundations of Theology	
Teaching Workshops	Fall 2014
Theology Department, University of Notre Dame	
Workshops on lecturing, classroom management, and student assignments	

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Twentieth century Christian thought
Nineteenth and twentieth century continental philosophy
Theological uses of literature and poetry
The parameters of doubt: space for logical, spiritual, and ethical negativity
Cruciform theology and the spaces of negativity
Nietzsche, the disappearing man in Hans Urs von Balthasar: from *Apocalypse der deutschen Seele* to the trilogy
The benefits of distinguishing Schelling from Hegel for theological discourse
Ethics and holiness – the debate between imperatives and binding developmental consciousness in responsible action

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Conversion of *Dark Beauty: Toward a Catholic Theological Aesthetics* into a book

The development of this project into a book is twofold. First, I will recontextualize the first two chapters as an aesthetic answer to the philosophical sublime, tying the richness of this theological resource even more synthetically to the challenges of postmodernism. This will give an increased sense of unity to the project without diminishing the importance of its work in establishing what dark beauty is and what its uses are. Second, I will flesh out the future of dark beauty in a final chapter that takes on its ethical and ecclesial ramifications. While the dissertation points towards what this looks like through poetry and literature, there remains much to be said about the way dark beauty develops the Christian understanding of sanctity and worship.

Development of article on doubt and its relation to the principle of non-contradiction

This article first asks the question to what extent the Augustinian rather than Cartesian expression of doubt matters for the principle of non-contradiction as a creaturely principle in Erich Przywara's *Analogia Entis*. It then argues that this framing of negativity has profound implications for the way Christians consider doubt and its role in the relationship between humans and God.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “The Dark Night of Doubt: The Iconic Possibilities of Søren Kierkegaard” 20 November 2016
American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, San Antonio
- “Dark Beauty: Toward a Cruciform Aesthetics” 2 April 2016
Midwest Region American Academy of Religion Conference, Ball State University
- “The Appropriate Posture of Doubt: Erich Przywara’s consideration of the principle of non-contradiction”
Graduate Symposium, University of Virginia 21 March 2015
- “The Darkness of Hope: I choose all” 31 January 2015
Graduate Conference, Boston College, STM
- “To What End a Corpse? The messianic challenge of Walter Benjamin and the apocalypticism of Hans Urs von Balthasar” 17 March 2014
Graduate Conference, University of Chicago and University of Notre Dame
- “What is the Truth of the Christian Event? Possibilities for Balthasarian logic in response to Alain Badiou”
Graduate Conference, Duke University 5 October 2014
- “Understanding Holiness: a Kantian shift” 11 November 2011
Center for Ethics and Culture Annual Conference, University of Notre Dame

LANGUAGES

German (Reading, Speaking)
Spanish (Reading, Speaking)
French (Reading)
Greek (Reading)
Latin (Reading)
English (Native)

SERVICE

- Committee Co-Chair Fall 2015-Spring 2016
Graduate Student Union, Quality of Life
- Graduate Representative Fall 2014-Spring 2015
University College Council
- Intern Summer 2008
International Summer Service Learning Project
Puno, Peru
In this Spanish immersion volunteer placement I was responsible for teaching English classes at a local elementary school and at the university as well as planning and leading two retreats in coordination with the campus ministry of the university of Puno.

REFERENCES

- Cyril O’Regan, Huisling Professor of Theology
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- Gerald McKenny, Walter Professor of Theology
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