

Curriculum Vitae

John M. Macias, PhD

Assistant Professor of Philosophy
St. Mary's Seminary & University

Seminary Address:

5400 Roland Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21210
Jmacias [at] stmarys.edu

johnmmacias1986 [at] gmail.com
316-617-6785

Education:

2016: PhD in Philosophy, Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas, TX
Dissertation Successfully Defended, 5/9/16, "Alasdair MacIntyre's Flourishing Human Being and Small-Scale Political Communities" (Steven Jensen, director; Thomas Osborne; Mirela Oliva; Christopher Martin; Christopher Steven Lutz).

Summary of Dissertation: My dissertation seeks to answer two questions: (1) what form of political community does Alasdair MacIntyre believe will best bring men and women to genuine human flourishing, and (2) is this a defensible view? The overall argument of the dissertation is that MacIntyre believes human beings most flourish in small-scale political communities of maximal participation in communal deliberations. The dissertation is divided into five chapters. The first two chapters consider contrasting views. The first uses John Rawls as a representative of political liberalism, and the second chapter presents Michael Walzer as a representative of communitarianism. In each of these chapters, I show why MacIntyre finds problems with the political proposals of each thinker. The third chapter is a consideration of MacIntyre's understanding of the flourishing human being, and the fourth chapter presents MacIntyre's ideal political community. The final chapter considers objections to MacIntyre's political proposal. I consider objections throughout the work, but the last chapter focuses on those who share many of MacIntyre's Thomistic and Aristotelian commitments.

2011: M.A. in Philosophy, Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX
2009: B.A. in Philosophy, Benedictine College, Atchison, KS
Major: Philosophy, Minor: Classics

Areas of Specialty: (1) Political Philosophy, (2) Natural Law, (3) Alasdair MacIntyre

Areas of Competency: (1) Medieval Philosophy, (2) Ethics, (3) History of Philosophy, (4) Ancient Philosophy, (5) Thomas Aquinas

Teaching Experience:

St. Mary's Seminary & University (Baltimore, MD)

Fall 2022: Epistemology (PHIL305), Philosophy of Nature (PHIL307)

St. Patrick's Seminary & University (Menlo Park, CA)

Spring 2022: *Epistemology* (PP207), *Political Philosophy* (PP214), *Capstone Project* (PP215)

Fall 2021: *Ancient Philosophy* (PP112); *Philosophical Ethics* (PP208)

Spring 2021: *Epistemology* (PP207), *Political Philosophy* (PP214), *Capstone Project* (PP215)

Fall 2020: *Ancient Philosophy* (PP112); *Philosophical Ethics* (PP208)

Spring 2020: *Epistemology* (PP207), *Special Topics Capstone [Political Philosophy]* (PP210)
Fall 2019: *Philosophical Ethics* (PP208), *History of Philosophy I/II* (PP102)

University of Mary (Bismarck, ND)

Spring 2019: *Philosophical Ethics* (PHI328), 2 sections; Catholic Studies Tutorial I (CTH150)
Fall 2018: *Philosophy of Beauty and Art* (PHI 328); *Philosophical Ethics* (PHI 308); *Catholic Studies Tutorial I* (CTH150)
Spring 2018: *Philosophical Ethics* (PHI 308), 2 sections; *Catholic Studies Tutorial I* CTH 150)
Fall 2017: *Philosophical Ethics* (PHI 308); *Catholic Studies Tutorial I* (CTH 150)

St. Gregory's University (Shawnee, OK)

Spring 2017: *Moral Philosophy* (PH3063); *Introduction to Catholic Social Teaching* (SS3233).
Fall 2016: *Philosophy of the Human Person* (PH3033); *Business Ethics and Corporate Responsibility* (PH4033) 2 sections; *Logic* (PH1311)
Summer 2016: *Introduction to Philosophy* (PH1013); *Social and Political Philosophy* (PH3113)

University of St. Thomas (Houston, TX)

Spring 2016: *Metaphysics* (PHIL 3315); *Ethics* (PHIL 2314)
Fall 2015: *Metaphysics* (PHIL 3315) [2 sections]
Spring 2015: *Ethics* (PHIL 2314)
Fall 2014: *Ancient Philosophy* (PHIL 1315/3315) [combined sections]
Summer 2014: *Philosophy of the Human Person* (PHIL 1311)
Spring 2014: *Ethics* (PHIL 2314)
Fall 2013: *Philosophy of the Human Person* (PHIL 1311)
Spring 2013: *Ethics* (PHIL 2314)
Fall 2012: *Philosophy of the Human Person* (PHIL 1311)
Summer 2012: *Philosophy of the Human Person* (PHIL 1311)
Spring 2012: *Ethics* (PHIL 2314)

Non-University Teaching:

WholeLife Authentic Care

FertilityCare Practitioner Education Program (Ethical Framework and *Dignitas Personae*), Winter 2021, Spring 2022.

Houston Institute for Liberal Arts (Houston, TX)

Fall 2016, Instructor, *Philosophy of Friendship*

Publications:

“The Beautiful” (forthcoming volume)

“Natural Law, the Common Good, and Economics: A Difficulty for Thomists” in *Practical Rationality & Human Difference: Perspectives on and beyond Alasdair MacIntyre*, eds. Sante Maletta, Dario Mazzola, and Damiano Simoncelli (Milan: Mimesis International, 2022).

“Deliberation and Society: Political Participation in Jacques Maritain and Alasdair MacIntyre” *Lex Naturalis* 6 (2021): 24-50.

“The Liberal Arts amid Contemporary Social Structures: The Case of Frodo Baggins,” in *Leisure and Labor: Essays on the Liberal Arts in Catholic Higher Education*, ed. Anthony P. Coleman (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2020), 91-103.

“John Finnis and Alasdair MacIntyre on our Knowledge of the Precepts of Natural Law,” *Res Philosophica* vol.93, no.1, January 2016, 103-23.

“John Finnis and the Political Community,” in *News from the Raven: Essays from Sam Houston State University on Medieval and Renaissance Thought* (Boston: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014), 249-61.

“What’s a Goat-Stag?: Aristotle on Definitions and Non-Existent Kinds” *Purlieu: A Philosophical Journal* 1 (2012): 97-112.

Book Reviews:

Love and Politics: Persistent Human Desires as a Foundation for Liberation, by Jeffery L. Nicholas. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 96 (2022): 511-14.

Ethics under Capital: MacIntyre, Communication, and the Culture Wars, by Jason Hannan. *International Philosophical Quarterly*, 61 (2021): 242-44.

Marxism, Ethics and Politics: The Work of Alasdair MacIntyre, by John Gregson. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, 93 (2019): 757-59.

Conference Papers, Academic Presentations:

“Timeless Natures and Changing Individuals: A Consideration of Blackledge and Nicholas,” *International Society for MacIntyrean Enquiry*, June 15-17, 2022, Muğla, Turkey and Online.

“The Problem of Rights: A Thomistic Appraisal of Rights in the Nation-State,” *American Catholic Philosophical Association*, 95th Annual Meeting, Nov. 18-21 2021, St. Louis, MO.

“Natural Law, the Common Good, and Economics: A Difficulty for Thomists,” *International Society for MacIntyrean Enquiry*, 14th Annual Conference, July 12-15, 2021, Virtual Conference hosted by University of Bergamo, Bergamo, Italy.

“The Common Good of Political Society: A Possible Way forward between Traditional and New Natural Law,” *American Maritain Association*, 43rd Annual Meeting, March 5-7, 2020, Pittsburgh, PA

“A Common Ground in Nature: A Point of Contact between St. Thomas Aquinas and Karl Marx,” *To What End? Narratives, Institutions, and Practices*. De Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture, University of Notre Dame, July 25-27, 2019.

“What Rights? Whose Rationality?” Comment on Joshua Schulz, “Is Purely Practical Agreement Possible?” *American Catholic Philosophical Association*, 2018 Annual Conference. San Diego, CA, November 8-11.

“Essence and Species-Being: A Point of Contact between St. Thomas Aquinas and Karl Marx,” *The American Maritain Association*, 41st Annual International Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, March 1-3, 2018.

“The Liberal Arts amidst Contemporary Social Structures,” *Leisure & Labor Conference*, St. Gregory’s University, Shawnee, OK, March 20-21, 2017.

“John Rawls and Alasdair MacIntyre on the Right and the Good,” *American Catholic Philosophical Association*, 2016 Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, November 3-6, 2016.

“Alasdair MacIntyre and Jacques Maritain on Political Participation,” *39th Annual Meeting of American Maritain Association*, New York City, February 25-27, 2016.

“Political Authority and the Nation-State,” *9th Annual Meeting of the International Society for MacIntyrean Enquiry*, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO, July 25, 2015.

- “A Defense of the Thomistic Account of Divine Omniscience,” *4th Annual HBU Philosophy Conference: Religion, Science, and Intellectual Virtues*, Houston Baptist University, Houston, TX, April 4-5, 2014.
- “John Finnis and Alasdair MacIntyre on the Per Se Nota Principles of Natural Law,” *Colloquia Series*, Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas (TX), March 7, 2014)
- “A MacIntyrean Critique of Rawls’ Political Liberalism,” *7th Annual Conference International Society for MacIntyrean Enquiry*, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, MI, July 28, 2013.
- “John Finnis and Political Community,” *International Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Thought*, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, April 5, 2013.
- “Tradition, Relativity, and MacIntyre,” *86th Annual Conference American Catholic Philosophical Association*, Los Angeles, CA, November 2, 2012.
- “Rationality, Relativism, and MacIntyre,” *Colloquia Series*, Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas (TX), February 1, 2012.

Popular Publications:

- “What it’s like to have OCD during a pandemic,” *Aleteia*, 24 June 2020, <https://aleteia.org/2020/06/24/what-its-like-to-have-ocd-during-a-pandemic/>
- “3 Misconceptions about seeking therapy that Christians may have,” *Aleteia*, 5 June 2020, <https://aleteia.org/2020/06/05/3-misconceptions-about-seeking-therapy-that-christians-may-have/>
- “The State of the Seminary and Reasons for Hope,” *Catholic World Report*, 30 January 2020 <https://www.catholicworldreport.com/2020/01/30/the-state-of-the-seminary-and-reasons-for-hope/?fbclid=IwAR1SpPdGTknHYOS55pgE9yiWhWAmVYbmVtgJ3B3XMV-xJjtkHzgVFo1wao0>
- “What is Patriotism?” *The Imaginative Conservative*, 28 May 2017 <http://www.theimaginativeconservative.org/2017/05/patriotism-john-macias.html>
- “Logan, Technocracy, and the Abolition of Man,” *Crisis Magazine*, 21 March 2017 (<http://www.crisismagazine.com/2017/logan-technocracy-abolition-man>).
- “Why a Liberal Arts Degree is Totally Worth It” *Aleteia*. 10 October 2016 (<http://aleteia.org/2016/10/10/why-a-liberal-arts-degree-is-completely-worth-it/>)
- “Why Do We Honor Self-Sacrifice?” *Crisis Magazine*, 27 May 2013 (<http://www.crisismagazine.com/2013/why-do-we-honor-self-sacrifice>)

Popular Presentations:

- WholeLife Authentic Care, FertilityCare Practitioner Education Program, “Ethical Framework” and “*Dignitas Personae*,” Spring 2022 (Fort Worth, TX) Virtual Presentation. February 20th.
- WholeLife Authentic Care, FertilityCare Practitioner Education Program, “Ethical Framework” and “*Dignitas Personae*,” Winter 2021 (Largo, FL) Virtual Presentation, January 8th.

WholeLife Authentic Care, FertilityCare Practitioner Education Program, “Ethical Framework” and “*Dignitas Personae*,”
Winter 2021 (Three Rivers, CA) December 13th.

“Natural Law,” Zephyr Institute, Junior Fellowship program, Stanford University, Winter 2020.

“What is Education?” Zephyr Institute, Junior Fellowship program, Stanford University, Fall 2019

“Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship Panel.” *Presenter*. 5 October 2016. St. Gregory’s University

“Mercy and the Liberal Arts Panel.” *Presenter*. 14 September 2016. St. Gregory’s University

Scholarly Referee:

Acta Philosophica
The Philosophical Forum

University/Academic Service:

St. Patrick’s Seminary & University (Menlo Park, CA)
Faculty Theological Discussions, 2021-2022

University of Mary (Bismarck, ND)
Catholic Studies Faculty/Fellow, 2017-Present
Year-Round-Campus Committee participant, 2017-2019
Residence Life Scholar, 2017-2019

St. Gregory’s University (Shawnee, OK)
Core Revision Committee, Spring 2017
Male Residence Hall Director, 2016-2017
Core Curriculum Reading Group Participant, 2016-2017

Professional Memberships:

American Catholic Philosophical Association
American Maritain Association
International Society for MacIntyrean Enquiry

Languages:

English
French—Passed PhD. Proficiency Exam, Center for Thomistic Studies (June 2013)
German—Passed PhD. Proficiency Exam, Center for Thomistic Studies (August 2014)
Latin (Medieval)—Passed PhD. Proficiency Exam, Center for Thomistic Studies (2011)