

Craig A. Ford, Jr., Ph.D.
Curriculum Vitae

Saint Norbert College
Theology and Religious Studies
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De Pere, WI 54115

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Education

Ph.D., Department of Theology, Boston College, 2018

Theological Ethics

Dissertation: *Foundations of a Queer Natural Law*

Committee: James Keenan, S.J., S.T.D. (Director, Department of Theology)

Lisa Sowle Cahill, Ph.D. (Department of Theology)

M. Shawn Copeland, Ph.D. (Department of Theology)

M.A.R., Yale Divinity School, Yale University, 2013

Concentration: Theological Ethics

Thesis: "Bonaventure After Foucault: The Legacy of Contuition for Post-Modern Theology."

Director: Denys Turner, D. Phil.

B.A., Theology and Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, 2010

Thesis: "By Their Fruits You Will Know Them: The Problem of Gentile Faith for the Early Church; the Problem of Same-Sex Relationships for the Contemporary Church."

Director: Randall Zachman, Ph.D.

Employment and Professional Experience

Aug 2019- Present

Assistant Professor

Theology and Religious Studies

Saint Norbert College

June 2020- Present

Adjunct Professor

Institute for Black Catholic Studies

Xavier University of Louisiana

Aug 2018-July 2019	Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow Theology Department Fordham University
May 2018-Aug 2018	Instructional Designer Center for Teaching Excellence Boston College
2017-2018	Teaching Fellow Theology Department Boston College
2014-2018	Instructional Design Consultant Center for Teaching Excellence Boston College
2015-2016	Teaching Assistant Theology Department Boston College

A. Publications

Books

1. *Works of Art: Sexuality, Gender, Race, and a New Theology of Embodiment* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press). Under Contract.

Academic Journal Articles and Book Chapters

1. "Black Queer Theology, Ecclesial Deformity, and the New Galileo Moment in Magisterial Authority." *Theological Studies*. Under Review.
2. "Beyond Fear to Solidarity: A Reflection on the 25th Anniversary of *Parish Boundaries*," *American Catholic Studies* 132.3 (Fall 2021): 24-28.
3. "Born That Way? The Challenge of Tran/Gender Identity for Catholic Theology." In *Sex, Love and Families: Catholic Perspectives*. Edited by Jason King and Julie Hanlon Rubio, 91-101. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2020.
4. "Transgender Bodies, Catholic Schools, and a Queer Natural Law Theology of Exploration" *Journal of Moral Theology*, 7.1 (January 2018): 70-98.
5. "What Makes Jesus Salvific for the Queer Community? A Moltmann-Inspired Essay in Christology." *Lumen et Vita* 5 (2015).

Book Reviews

1. Caitlin Smith Gilson, *Subordinated Ethics: Natural Law and Moral Miscellany in Aquinas and Dostoyevsky*. *Modern Theology* 38.1 (2022): 178-183. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/moth.12737>.
2. Kevin Jung, ed. *Religious Ethics and Constructivism*. *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 41.1 (Spring/Summer 2021): 189-190.
3. Joseph N. Goh, *Living Out Sexuality and Faith: Body Admissions of Malaysian Gay and Bisexual Men*. *Journal of Moral Theology*. Forthcoming.
4. Mary Jo Iozzio and Patricia Beattie Jung, eds. *Sex and Gender: Christian Ethical Reflections*. Catholic Books Review Online. June 2018.
5. David Farina Turnbloom. *Speaking with Aquinas: A Conversation about Grace, Virtue, and the Eucharist*. Catholic Books Review Online. August 2017.
6. Terry Eagleton. *Materialism*. Catholic Books Review Online. April 2017.
7. Kimberly Vrudy. *Beauty's Vineyard: A Theological Aesthetics of Anguish and Anticipation*. Catholic Books Review Online. January 2017.
8. Kathryn Lilla Cox. *Water Shaping Stone: Faith, Relationships, and Conscience Formation*. Catholic Books Review Online. April 2016.
9. Jeffrey McCune. *Sexual Discretion: Black Masculinity and the Politics of Passing*. *Theology and Sexuality* 21.1 (2015): 76-78.

Popular Articles, Blog Posts, Book Chapters, Videos, and Podcasts

1. "[New Anti-Trans Policies Move Church Away from Vital Core Teachings.](#)" Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education. 01 February 2022.
2. "Dismantle Systemic Racism." *Network Connection*. Fourth Quarter 2021.
3. "US Bishops' Theology is the True Scandal in Philadelphia Foster Care Case." *National Catholic Reporter*. 02 July 2021.
4. "Queering Natural Law." *Sex-Positive Christian Feminists Podcast*. 29 June 2021. <https://anchor.fm/sp-christian-feminists/episodes/Queering-Natural-Law-with-Dr--Craig-Ford-e13kbde>.
5. "We Must Reject the White Racist God of the '1776 Report'." *National Catholic Reporter*. 04 February 2021.
6. "On Social Love and Hard Truths in *Fratelli Tutti*." Berkeley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs. Georgetown University. 30 October 2020.
7. "On the Brink of Abundance: Signs of Hope amid COVID-19's Racialized Violence." GodPods. Center for the Church in the 21st Century. Boston College. 17 July 2020.
8. Interview with Dr. Jason Steidl. *Theology Quarantined*. 23 March 2020.
9. "A Natural Law for Queer and Racial Justice." *Canopy Forum*. 21 January 2020.
10. "Desiring Tradition at the Edges of Ethics and the Law." *Syndicate*. 06 November 2019.
11. Frédéric Martel. *Inside the Closet of the Vatican: Power, Homosexuality, Hypocrisy*. Syndicate Network. March 2019.
12. "LGBT Catholics are a Reality." *Commonweal*. 19 December 2018.

13. "On Being a Hero: Reflections for the Second Sunday of Advent." *Bondings 2.0 Blog*. 10 December 2017.
14. "Reflections on 'Silence is Still Violence.'" *BC Heights*. Op-ed. 25 October 2017.
15. "The Challenge of White Supremacy on College Campuses." *BC Heights*. Op-ed. 07 September 2016.
16. "The Complicity of Catholic Progressives in *Amoris Laetitia* Commentary." *Catholic Moral Theology Blog*. 13 May 2016.
17. "Institutional Racism at BC: Why Do Only Certain Persons Recognize It?" *Eradication #BostonCollegeRacism*. Blog. 01 December 2015.
18. "A Catholic's Eulogy for the Harvard 'Black Mass' Controversy." *Religion Dispatches*. 16 May 2014.
19. "Black, Gay, Catholic, Man." *Black Dorners: Seventy Years at Notre Dame*. Edited by David Krashna and Don Wycliff. Notre Dame: Corby Books, 2014.
20. "Hospitality and the Catholic Conscience: A Catholic('s) Affirmation of Brewer's Veto." *CatholicHow*. 01 March 2014.
21. "What Does Alan Chambers' Apology Mean? A Reflection on the Updated Politics of Christian Heterosexism." *Plural Space*. 26 June 2013.

B. Conference Activity

Papers and Presentations

1. "Following the Drag Queen Prostitute: Towards a Queer of Color Account of the Natural Law." A New Agenda for Catholic Theology and Ministry: Queer Catholic Theologians of Color Colloquium. Loyola University Chicago. October 2021.
2. "Black Queer Theology, Ecclesial Deformity, and the New Galileo Moment in Magisterial Authority." Black Catholic Theological Symposium. October 2021.
3. "Blackness, Queerness, and the New Galileo Moment in Magisterial Authority." College Theology Society Annual Meeting. June 2021.
4. "Desire, Pleasure, and the Epistemology of the Natural Law in QPOC (Queer Person of Color) Perspective." College Theology Society Annual Meeting. May 2020.
5. "Theology Without Idolatry: A Response to Dr. Charles Gillespie." College Theology Society Annual Meeting. May 2020.
6. "The Witness of Black Theology in an Age of Complicity: Resources from Queer Theory and Black Queer Ethics." Catholic Theological Society of America Annual Meeting. June 2019.
7. "Queer Natural Law as Method for Universal Ethic." College Theology Society Annual Meeting. June 2019.
8. "Transgendering Our Theologies of Embodiment: A New Theology of Sex and Gender for the Roman Catholic Church." Call to Action Conference. Union Theological Seminary. March 2019.

9. "Foundations of a Queer Natural Law." Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church. Sarajevo. July 2018.
10. "Interrogating 'Born This Way' Theology: The Problem of Identity for the Future of Catholic Sexual Ethics." Catholic Theological Society of America Annual Meeting. June 2018.
11. "'No Justice, No Peace': Towards a Queer Theological Epistemology of Preferential Option for the Poor." College Theology Society Annual Meeting. June 2018.
12. "An Appreciative Queer Critique of the *Just Love* Framework for Sexual Ethics." College Theology Society Annual Meeting. June 2017.
13. "Authentic Development: Contemporary Insights from a Queer and Catholic Virtue Ethics," Soul of Development: Catholic Social Traditions Conference. University of Notre Dame. March 2017.
14. "Celebrating the Persons We are Called to Be: Transgender Christians and the Ritual Recognition of Post-Transition Identity," College Theology Society Annual Meeting. June 2016.
15. "After the Synod; After Obergefell: A Queer Catholic Theological View of the Family." NEMAAR 2016. April 2016.
16. "John Courtney Murray, Religious Liberty, and American Catholicism." NEMAAR 2015. March 2015.
17. "What Makes Jesus Salvific for the Queer Community? A Moltmann-Inspired Essay in Queer Christology." Lumen et Vita Conference; Sustained by Hope: The Place and Significance of Christian Hope in the World." January 2015.
18. "God is Not in Your Family: Barthian Annotations to a Queer Christian Theological Epistemology." Ways of Knowing Conference. Harvard Divinity School. October 2014.
19. "*Metanoia* and the Missionary Aesthetic of Joy." Lumen et Vita Conference: Gospel and Contemporary Culture. Boston College. February 2014.

Academic Panels

1. "Taking Up the Call: Anti-Racism in the Undergraduate Classroom." Panel Moderator. Catholic Theological Society of America. December 2021.
2. "Purposeful Conversations: Demystifying Critical Race Theory." Sisters of Mercy. September 2021.
3. Moderator, "Selected Session: Working With/In the Church: Contributions of and Challenges for LGBTQ+ Persons." Catholic Theological Society of America. June 2021.
4. "Teaching and Doing Theology in Real Time: Summer, 2020, and Black Lives Matter." Catholic Theological Society of America. November 2020.
5. Making #BlackLivesMatter in Green Bay: A Catholic Conversation." Saint Norbert College. June 2020.
6. "'Born That Way?' Paper Presentation." College Theology Society Annual Meeting. May 2020.

7. "LGBTQ+ Catholic Activism: A Global Conversation." NYC WorldPride. Fordham University. June 2019.
8. "Research and Scholarship Integrity: Senior PhD Student Panel." Research and Scholarship Integrity Program. Boston College. October 2017.
9. "The Challenge of Charlottesville: Race, Religion, and Public Monuments." Boston College. 26 September 2017.
10. "What's Next? Being President After the Arrival of a New Regime on Racism and Nationalism." Plenary Panel Discussion: Assessing the First 100 Days of the Trump Presidency. NEMAAR 2017. April 2017.
11. "Surviving, Thriving, or Capsizing? Race and Higher Education." Boston College. 17 October 2016.
12. "Global LGBTQ+ Panel." Pride Week. Boston College. 12 October 2016.
13. "Research and Scholarship Integrity: Senior PhD Student Panel." Research and Scholarship Integrity Program. Boston College. 11 October 2016.
14. "Sit, Stand, Sit or Scream: How Young People Engage Politics and the World in 2016." Boston College. 28 September 2016.
15. "Race and Policing." Newton South High School. 23 September 2016.
16. "Black Natural Law." Respondent to Vincent Lloyd's book *Black Natural Law*. Boston College Boisi Center. 14 September 2016.

C. Invited Talks

Conference Invitations

1. "Where the Church Does Its Learning: Catholic Mission, DEI Initiatives, and Catholic Social Teaching." Senior Diversity Office Pre-Conference. Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities Annual Conference. February 2022.
2. "Christianity and Racism in the Aftermath of the Trump Presidency." Martin Luther King, Jr. Teach In. St. Norbert College. January 2021.
3. "Doing Our First Works Over: Sketches of a Black Queer Ethics." All-School Conference. Yale Divinity School. November 2019.

Classroom Lectures

1. "The Natural Law: A Biography." Christian Ethics (THRS 504). Saint Norbert College. March 2021.
2. "'And Who is My Neighbor?': A Catholic Dispatch on COVID-19." Honors 101 Class. Saint Norbert College. November 2020.
3. "Being Human: Confronting Structural Racism." Human Dignity Module. Australian Catholic University (at Saint John's University, Queens, NY). July 2019.
4. "What Do You Love the Most? On Augustine's Two Cities," Person and Social Responsibility Class at Boston College. 16 November 2017.

5. "Queer Theory, Queer Theology, and the Hope for a Just World," Challenge of Justice Class at Boston College. 17 November 2016.
6. "Black Lives Matter, Catholic Theology, and the Boston College Context," Challenge of Justice Class at Boston College. 10 November 2016.

Special Presentations

1. "King and the Beloved Community in a Time of Pandemics: A Keynote Conversation with Shawnee Daniels-Sykes, Ph.D. & Craig Ford, Ph.D." Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebration. St. Norbert College. January 2022.
2. "Does The Concept of 'Nature' Help Us Make Sense of Sexuality and Gender Identity?" The Philosophers' Café. University of Wisconsin – Green Bay. November 2021.
3. "Black Lives Matter: A Theology." Saint Norbert College. SNC Day. September 2021.
4. "Racism and the Catholic Church." Sacred Heart Parish, Washington, D.C. March 2021.
5. "Cast Out: The Intersection of Racism and Homophobia in the Church." St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish; Chestnut Hill, MA. February 2021.
6. "Black Faith/Spirituality Panel." 2021 Black History Month. Notre Dame Black Alumni. February 2021.
7. "The Catholic Theological Discussion Around Transgender Identity." New York City Interparish Collaborative. February 2021.
8. "What's Next In Our Fight Against Racism and Hetero/Sexism?" Church of the Sacred Heart. Plainfield, NJ. February 2021.
9. "Creating Communities Where #BlackLivesMatter: Pandemic Edition." University of Wisconsin – River Falls. December 2020.
10. "Theology on Tap: *Fratelli Tutti*." Saint Ignatius Prep. December 2020.
11. "An Anti-Racist Spirituality for Catholics." Webinar. Paulist Center. September 2020.
12. "Creating Communities Where #BlackLivesMatter: Pandemic Edition." California State University – Bakersfield. August 2020.
13. "Creating Communities Where #BlackLivesMatter: Pandemic Edition." Illinois State University. August 2020.
14. "Committing to Antiracism (Part Two): Sustaining the Mission." Saint Francis Xavier Parish, New York City. February 2020.
15. "Committing to Antiracism (Part One): Receiving the Mission." Saint Francis Xavier Parish, New York City. January 2020.
16. "Uncovering Our Power as LGBT Persons of Color in the Catholic Church." Saint Charles Borromeo Catholic Church. New York City. September 2019.
17. Discussion of *The Sunday Sessions* (2019), dir. Richard Yeagley. Saint Francis de Sales Parish, New York City. June 2019.

18. "Believing in Justice: The Ethical Crisis at the Heart of the LGBTQ+ Struggle." Day of Concern. Friends Seminary, NYC. 07 January 2019.
19. "Our Bodies are (Not) Our Own: Decolonizing the BC Body," Love Your Body Week, Boston College Women's Center. 11 October 2016.
20. "That We Might Be Catholic: Lessons and Trajectories from the Catholic Encounter with Race in the 20th Century." Saint Patrick's Roman Catholic Church. Memphis, TN. 28 November 2012.

D. Teaching Experience

1. "Black Approaches to Theology." Institute for Black Catholic Studies. Summer 2021 – Present.
2. "Introduction to Peace and Justice." Saint Norbert College. Fall 2020 – Present.
3. "Moral Questions in the Black Community." Institute for Black Catholic Studies. Xavier University of Louisiana. June-July 2020.
4. "Theological Foundations." Saint Norbert College. Assistant Professor. Fall 2019 – Present.
5. "Christian Ethics." Saint Norbert College. Assistant Professor. Fall 2019 – Present.
6. "Church: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow." Saint Norbert College. Fall 2019 – Present.
7. "Race, Gender, Religion, Sexuality." Hybrid Learning Consortium. Spring 2020.
8. "Church in Controversy." Fordham University. Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow. Spring 2019.
9. "Faith and Critical Reason." Fordham University. Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow. Spring 2019.
10. "Faith and Critical Reason." Fordham University. Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow. Fall 2018.
11. "Introduction to Christian Theology I and II" Boston College. Teaching Fellow. Fall 2017 – Spring 2018.
12. "Person and Social Responsibility." Boston College. Teaching Assistant. Fall 2015 – Spring 2016.
13. "Religion and Bioethics: Perspectives, Analysis, Trajectories." Yale Summer Bioethics Institute. Yale University. Summer 2013.

E. Awards/Fellowships

1. Green Bay's "Future 15" Young Professional Award Recipient. December 2021.
2. Founder's Award. St. Norbert College. October 2021.
3. Nominee, Pax Christi USA Teacher of Peace Award. 2021.

4. Co-Principal Investigator, “A New Agenda for Catholic Theology and Ministry: Perspectives from Queer Theologians of Color.” Louisville Institute Project Grant. 2019--Present
5. Margaret O’Brien Flatley Fellow in Theological Ethics. Department of Theology. Boston College. 2013-2018.
6. Presidential Fellow. Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Boston College. 2013-Present.
7. Marquand Scholar. Yale Divinity School. Yale University. 2010-2012.

F. Professional Association Memberships

1. Black Catholic Theological Symposium (2020 – Present)
2. Catholic Theological Society of America (2017-Present)
3. American Academy of Religion (2012-Present)
4. College Theology Society (2014-Present)
5. Society of Christian Ethics (2017-Present)

G. Service to the Profession

1. Chairperson. Communications Team. Black and Brown LGBT Religious Scholars and Practitioners Group. 2021.
2. Reviewer. Yale University Press. 2021.
3. Reviewer. Political Theology Journal. 2021.
4. Member, Virtual Events Committee. Catholic Theological Society of America. 2021-2022.
5. Member, Nominating Committee. Society of Christian Ethics. 2021-2022.
6. Member, Advisory Board: Carpenter Foundation Grant. Fordham University. 2020 – Present.
7. Member, Policy Committee. Institute for Black Catholic Studies. New Orleans, LA. 2020 – Present.
8. Reviewer, Internal Review Board. Bellin Health. Green Bay, WI. 2020 – Present.
9. Co-Convener: Marriage, Family, Sexuality, and Relationships Group. College Theology Society. 2018 – 2021.

H. Service to Saint Norbert College

Program Direction

1. Co-Director, Introduction to Peace and Justice Interdisciplinary Minor. 2020 – Present.

Undergraduate Theses Directed

1. Zachary Moede, “Neoliberalism and the Demonic.” Senior Thesis. Saint Norbert College. Spring 2020.

Thesis Committees

1. Erin Hahl, “Creating Space for Same Sex Parents in the Catholic Church.” Master of Liberal Studies Program. Saint Norbert College. Spring 2020.

Elected Committees

1. Search Committee, Dean of Curriculum and Senior Diversity Officer. 2021.
2. Admission Committee. 2020 – Present.
3. Norman Miller Center for Peace and Justice Advisory Committee. 2020 – Present.

Appointed Committees

1. Member, Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. Saint Norbert College. Fall 2021 – Fall 2024.
2. Researcher, Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Review. Saint Norbert College. Fall 2020.

Special Groups

1. Founder and Member, OUT | LOUD Ministry. St. Norbert College Parish. Fall 2020 – Present.
2. Founder and Committee Member, Coming Out Week | Month of Pride Planning Group. Fall 2019 – Present.
3. Affiliate Faculty, Norman Miller Center for Peace, Justice, and Public Understanding (2020-2021).

I. References

James Keenan, S.J., S.T.D.
Canisius Professor; Director of Jesuit Institute; Vice Provost for Global
Engagement
Theology Department
Boston College
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Bryan Massingale, S.T.D.
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