

Curriculum Vitae

John M. Macias, PhD
Assistant Professor of Philosophy
St. Mary's Seminary & University

University Address:

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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) 2022-Present

Epistemology, Philosophy of Nature, Metaphysics, Philosophy of God, Philosophical Ethics

St. Patrick's Seminary & University (Menlo Park, CA) 2019-2022

Spring 2022: *Epistemology, Political Philosophy, Capstone Project, Ancient Philosophy, Philosophical Ethics, History of Philosophy I/II*

University of Mary (Bismarck, ND) 2017-2019

Philosophical Ethics, Catholic Studies Tutorial, Philosophy of Beauty and Art

St. Gregory's University (Shawnee, OK) 2016-2017

Moral Philosophy, Introduction to Catholic Social Teaching, Philosophy of the Human Person, Business Ethics and Corporate Responsibility, Logic, Introduction to Philosophy, Social and Political Philosophy.

University of St. Thomas (Houston, TX) 2012-2016

Metaphysics, Ethics, Ancient Philosophy, Philosophy of the Human Person

Non-University Teaching:

WholeLife Authentic Care

FertilityCare Practitioner Education Program (Ethical Framework, *Humanae Vitae*, and *Dignitas Personae*), 2021-2023.

Publications:

“Political Community and the Nation-State: A Possible way Forward between Traditional and New Natural Law” (forthcoming *Perspectives on Political Science*)

“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), 211-220.

“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.

Book Reviews:

Love and Politics: Persistent Human Desires as a Foundation for Liberation, by Jeffery L. Nicholas. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, vol.96, issue 3, Summer 2022, pp.511-514.

Ethics under Capital: MacIntyre, Communication, and the Culture Wars, by Jason Hannan. *International Philosophical Quarterly*, vol. 61, issue 242, June 2021, pp.242-244.

Marxism, Ethics and Politics: The Work of Alasdair MacIntyre, by John Gregson. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, vol. 93, issue 4, Fall 2019, pp.757-759.

Conference Papers, Academic Presentations:

“Practical Agreement in Natural Law,” American Maritain Association, 46th Annual Conference, April 27-29, 2023, Dallas, TX.

“The Practical Foundations of Natural Law,” *American Catholic Philosophical Association*, 96th Annual Meeting, Nov. 17-20, 2022, New Orleans, LA.

“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.

Works in Progress:

Monograph. “Alasdair MacIntyre’s Flourishing Human Beings and Small-Scale Political Communities”

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-xJtkHzgVFo1wao0>
- “Brebeuf and the Two Competing Views of Education,” *Catholic World Report*, 19 August 2019
<https://www.catholicworldreport.com/2019/08/19/brebeuf-and-the-two-competing-views-of-education/>
- “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/>)

Scholarly Referee:

Acta Philosophica
The Philosophical Forum
The Thomist
Lux Veritatis

Professional Memberships:

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

Summer Graduate Courses and Workshops:

- 2014: Intensive German Workshop, Center for Thomistic Students, University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX (Summer 2014).
- 2013: 8th Annual Thomistic Seminar: “Philosophy of Alasdair MacIntyre and Thomas Aquinas,” August 4-10, 2013. Witherspoon Institute, Princeton. John Haldane, Sarah Broadie, David Solomon, Candace Vogler (Attendee).
- 2013: Intensive French Workshop at Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St Thomas, Houston, TX. (Summer 2013).

Awards:

- 2011-2013: Center Assistantship, Tuition and Stipend (Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas, TX)
- 2009-2011: Center Assistantship, Tuition and Stipend (Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas, TX)
- 2009: St. Thomas Aquinas Award for Excellence in Philosophy (Benedictine College)

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)