

# Michael J. McGravey, PhD

College of Our Lady of the Elms  
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Chicopee, MA 01013  
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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. **Duquesne University**, Pittsburgh, PA.

Systematic Theology

Dissertation: *Jean-Luc Marion and Gianni Vattimo's Contributions to the Postmodern Faith*

Director: Marie L. Baird, Ph.D..

Committee: Sebastian Madathummuriyil, Ph.D. & George Worgul, Ph.D.

M.A. **Villanova University**, Villanova, PA.

Master of Arts in Theology and Religious Studies

B.A. **Gannon University**, Erie, PA.

Bachelor of Arts in Theology with Minors in History and Philosophy, *Magna Cum Laude*

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**

**SPRING 2025 – PRESENT**

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**

**FALL 2019 – SPRING 2025**

Religious Studies

Elms College, Chicopee, MA

**INSTRUCTOR**

**FALL 2011, FALL 2012, AND FALL 2016 - SPRING 2019**

Department of Theology

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

**TEACHER**

**2005 – 2009**

Department of Religious Studies

St. Joseph's Preparatory School, Philadelphia, PA

## POSITIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

**DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR THEOLOGY & PASTORAL STUDIES**

**FALL 2019 - PRESENT**

Elms College, Chicopee, MA

**GRADUATE ASSISTANT**

**JULY – AUGUST 2016**

Dr. Darlene Fozard Weaver

The Center for the Catholic Intellectual Tradition and the CORE Curriculum

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

**UNIVERSITY INSTRUCTIONAL CONSULTANT**

**JULY 2015 – JULY 2016**

**INSTRUCTIONAL CONSULTANT FOR TAS**

**JULY 2013 - JULY 2015**

Dr. Laurel Willingham-McLain

Center for Teaching Excellence

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

**TEACHING ASSISTANT**

**2009 – 2013**

Department of Theology

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS, ACADEMIC PAPERS, & PRESENTATIONS****Monograph**

- *Navigating Postmodern Theology: Insights from Jean-Luc Marion and Gianni Vattimo*; Lexington Books/Fortress Press (Lanham, MD) 15 July 2023

**Book Chapters**

- "From Tradition to Transformation: Exploring *Perfectae Caritatis* and its Relevance," in *An Uncommon Love: The Life, Legacy, and Lessons of Sisters Mary and Eleanor Dooley* October 2024
- "Roots and Realities of a Priestly People," in *Along the Way: The Life, Legacy and Lessons of Father Hugh F. Crean*, Andrews McMeel Universal (Kansas City, MO). September 2022

**Co-Edited Volumes**

- Co-edited with Christina Astorga. *Reclaiming Faith Amid Christian Nationalism*, following the 2026 College Theology Society's Annual Convention; Villanova University, May 2026 *Forthcoming*

**Peer-Reviewed Articles**

- "Christofascism: Unraveling the Ideologies of Ivan Ilyin and Christian Nationalism," *Political Theology* *Under Review*
- "A Call for Reform: Education's Role in Strengthening Democracy," *Equity in Education & Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/27526461241227566>. January 2024

**Symposia**

- *Syndicate Network* -- Symposium response to *Navigating Postmodern Theology: Insights from Jean-Luc Marion and Gianni Vattimo's Philosophy*, organized by Dr. Ethan Vanderleek. *Forthcoming*

**Book Reviews**

- "*Building Bridges in Sarajevo: The Plenary Papers from CTEWC 2018*. Kristen E. Heyer, James F. Keenan, Andrea Vicini, eds. New York, NY, Orbis Books (2019)." Catholic Books Review, <http://catholicbooksreview.org/2021/heyer.html> (2021). January 2021
- "*If Nuns Ruled the World: Ten Sisters on a Mission*. Jo Piazza. New York, NY, Open Road Media (2014)." *Religious Studies Review*, 43, no. 1 (2017). March 2017
- "*Beyond Church and State: Democracy, Secularism, and Conversion*. Matthew Scherer. New York, NY, Cambridge University Press, 2013." *Political Theology*, 17, no. 3 (2016): 210-11. April 2016
- "*Bonhoeffer, Christ and Culture*. Keith L. Johnson and Timothy Larson, eds. Downers Grove, IL, IVP Academic, 2013." *Political Theology*, 17, no. 1 (2016): 107-8. March 2016
- "*Against Dogmatism: Dwelling in Faith and Doubt*. Madhuri M. Yadlapati. Urbana, IL, University of Illinois Press, 2013. \$20.00," *Religious Studies Review*, 41, no. 3 (2015): 101. September 2015
- "*Faith in the Face of Empire: The Bible Through Palestinian Eyes*. Mitri Raheb. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2014. \$24.00," *Religious Studies Review*, 41, no. 2 (2015): 63-4. June 2015

**Multi-media Productions & Presentations: Elms College**

- "Elms College, First Year Seminar 2023: Catholic Social Teaching Video," *YouTube*, <https://youtu.be/Hormv8HADZA>. Developed for First Year Seminar, Fall 2023. October 2023
- "CST FYS 2021," *YouTube*, <https://youtu.be/lWVAYMXVFLw>. Developed for First Year Seminar, Fall 2021. October 2021

### Conference Presentations

- “The Conciliar Legacy of Freedom and the Rise of Catholic Authoritarianism: Christian Nationalism, Catholic Integralism, and the Role of Church Leadership,” American Academy of Religion. Boston, MA. *Forthcoming*, November 2025
- “The Idol, the Icon, and the Infinite: Marion's Phenomenology and the Role of Philosophy in Theology,” The Sacra Doctrina Project. The Theological College, Washington, D.C. June 2025
- “From Vulnerability to Resilience: Unraveling Ivan Ilyin’s Christian Nationalism in Global Politics,” College Theology Society: Seventieth Annual Convention (“Vulnerability & Flourishing”). Regis University, Denver, CO. June 2024
- “Education and Structural Racism,” College Theology Society: Annual Convention (“‘Why We Can’t Wait’: Racism and the Church”), Sponsored by the University of Detroit Mercy [Virtual Conference] June 2022
- “I’m Sorry, You Teach What?: A Discussion of Theology at our Colleges and Universities;” The Catholic Intellectual Tradition: Challenges and Opportunities for the Catholic University in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT [Virtual Conference] October 2020
- “The Frenchman and the Torinese: Foucault and Vattimo in the Aftermath of 1968,” College Theology Society: Sixty-Fourth Annual Convention (“‘You Say You Want a Revolution?’ 1968-2018 in Theological Perspective”), St. Catherine’s University, St. Paul, MN 1 June 2018
- “Gianni Vattimo and the Possibility of Religious Pluralism in Postmodern Christianity,” College Theology Society: Sixty-Third Annual Convention (“American Catholicism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Crossroads, Crisis, or Renewal?”), Salve Regina University 2 June 2017
- “Complement Student Learning with Mobile Tech,” 2015 Annual Conference of the American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, GA 23 November 2015
- “Augustine’s Approval and Vattimo’s Concern: Authority in Postmodernism,” 2014 Eastern International Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Syracuse University 2 May 2014
- “Reconciliation in Northern Ireland,” College Theology Society: 57th Annual Convention (“They Shall Be Called Children of God: Violence, Transformation, and the Sacred”), Iona College 3 June 2011
- “The Roman Catholic Church in Post-World War II Europe: The principle of subsidiarity and Pius XII,” 2011 Eastern International Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Syracuse University 6 May 2011
- Colloquium Presentation: “Catholic Social Teaching, the Common Good, and Access to Health Care,” 2010 Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture, Baylor University 28 October 2010

### Guest Lectures and Presentations

- Guest Lecture: “Religion in the Workplace,” for Professor Gina Mazza, Elms College (BUS 3401, Gender/Div Mgt, Spring 2024). 13 March 2024
- Panelist - Community Conversations (a First-Year Seminar Program), “Climate Crisis and the Election” 22 October 2024
- “The Catholic Tradition and Our Shared Values,” Adjunct Appreciation Night, The D’Amour Center for Faculty Teaching Excellence at Elms College 11 January 2024
- Guest Participant: “Feeling & Thinking Through the Complexities of Israel/Palestine,” for Elms College EquitTEA Program 7 December 2023
- Co-Organizer and Co-Facilitator: “Explore the Core,” Faculty Development Day, Elms College 10 October 2023
- Guest Panelist: Catholic Social Teaching and the First Year Seminar 13 September 2023
- Guest Lecture: “Religion in the Workplace,” for Professor Gina Mazza, Elms College (BUS 3401, Gender/Div Mgt, Spring 2023). 29 March 2023
- Book Study: Shannen Dee Williams, *Subversive Habits: Black Catholic Nuns in the Long African American Freedom Struggle* 15 and 22 February 2023

- Book Study: Olga Segura, *Birth of a Movement: Black Lives Matter and the Catholic Church* (2021), Elms College 7 February 2023
- Book Launch Presentation: Fr. Mark Stelzer, ed., *Along the Way: The Life, Lessons, and Legacy of Fr. Hugh F. Crean* (2022), Elms College 18 October 2022
- Organizer and Co-Facilitator: Dr. Laurel Willingham-McLain (Syracuse University), “Communicating with Students for Learning,” Faculty Development Day, Elms College 11 October 2022
- Guest Participant: “Let’s Talk Reproductive Justice,” for Elms College EquitTEA Program 27 September 2022
- Book Study: Kevin Clarke, *Oscar Romero: Love Must Win Out* (2014), Elms College 7 December 2021
- Contributor: “Discovering [Rediscovering] Your Purpose,” Professional Development Day, Elms College 12 October 2021
- Invited Lecture: “Christianity and Fasting,” Islamic Society of Western Mass and the Interfaith Council of Greater Springfield: Virtual Iftar Event 29 April 2021
- Invited Presentation: A Variation of, “I’m Sorry, You Teach What?: A Discussion of Theology at our Colleges and Universities,” for *Redrawing the Boundaries: Recent Work by Humanities Faculty*, Elms College 16 April 2021
- Organizer and Facilitator: On Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti* (with Sr. Chris Clark, DHM, Professor Scott Hartblay, and Dr. William Gilbert), Elms College 10 November 2020
- Book Study: Henri J.M. Nouwen, *Following Jesus: Finding our Way Home in an Age of Anxiety* (2019), Elms College 2, 16, and 30 November 2020
- Guest Lecture: “On Buddhism,” for Professors Dan Chelotti and Ray Curran’s course ‘Nothing,’ Elms College 19 November 2019
- Office of International Programs, Interdisciplinary Orientation Duquesne University August 2015
- Mylan School of Pharmacy and Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, University Orientation August 2013, 2014, & 2015
- “Sandwich Your Student Learning,” 2014 Mylan Pharmacy School Faculty Retreat, Oglebay Resort, Wheeling, WV January 2014

### SERVICE TO THE ELMS AND THE FIELD OF THEOLOGY

- Faculty Fellow (Faith), The D’Amour Center for Faculty Teaching Excellence, Elms College February 2025 - Present
- Associate Editor, Religion, *Charity in Truth: A Journal of Ethics, Religion, and Culture* April 2022 - Present
- Advisory Board Member: St. Augustine Center for Ethics, Religion, and Culture, Elms College 2020 - Present
- Co-Convener, Philosophy of Religion Section, College Theology Society (CTS) August 2019 – June 2025
- Faculty Facilitator, Educating Character Initiative – Grant Committee October 2024 – June 2025
- Facilitator, Mary Dooley Lecture, Jacques Linder, PhDc (College of the Holy Cross), “Political Hope in the Jubilee Year: Francis, Justice, and the Catholic Social Movement,” Elms College 1 May 2025
- Co-Facilitator, The D’Amour Center for Faculty Teaching Excellence’s Spring Lecture, Dr. Brent Little (Sacred Heart University) 10 April 2025
- Co-Chair, Organizer, and Facilitator: “Finding Hope in the Midst of Grief,” Elms College and the Diocese of Springfield, MA 8 March 2025
- Judge – First-Year Seminar’s “Innovation Challenge” 23 October 2024
- Facilitator, Mary Dooley Lecture, Dr. Katherine Dugan (Springfield College), “The Spiritual Lives of Marian Shrines in the U.S.,” Elms College 9 October 2024
- Co-Chair, Sub-Committee on Mission and Identity for the New England Commission for Higher Education Accreditation Review, Elms College Fall 2021 – Spring 2024
- Facilitator, Mary Dooley Lecture, Dr. Katherine G. Schmidt (Molloy University), “Faith in a Digital Age,” Elms College 18 October 2023

- Facilitator, Mary Dooley Lecture, Sr. Mary McGlone, CSJ (Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet), “Charism on the Move,” Elms College 15 March 2023
- Co-Chair, Organizer, and Facilitator: “Addiction in a Post-COVID World: A Pastoral Response,” Elms College and the Diocese of Springfield, MA 11 March 2023
- Facilitator, Mary Dooley Lecture, Dr. Hosffman Ospino (Boston College), “Hispanic Spiritualities in the U.S.A.,” Elms College 12 September 2022
- Planning Committee, 2022 Synod on Synodality for Elms College Students, Alumni, Faculty, and Staff December 2021 – May 2022
- Question & Answer Facilitator, Mary Ann Glendon, “Reflection on ‘The Hour of the Laity’” 29 March 2022
- Facilitator, Mary Dooley Lecture, Mr. Bradley Harmon (Mercy Medical Center, Springfield, MA), “The Hallowed Halls of our Hospitals: Finding Grace and Community During the Pandemic,” Elms College 2 December 2021
- Question & Answer Facilitator, Inaugural Distinguished Lecture in Culture for the St. Augustine Center for Ethics, Religion, and Culture; Thea James, M.D. 10 November 2021
- Question & Answer Facilitator, Inaugural Distinguished Lecture in Ethics for the St. Augustine Center for Ethics, Religion, and Culture; James F. Keenan, S.J., “Finding God in the Twin Pandemics: Theological Reflections on the Role of the University in the Age of COVID-19 and Black Lives Matter” March 2021
- Convocation Speech: “The Catholic Intellectual Tradition: Academic Engagement, Community, & Justice in the Era of COVID-19,” Elms College October 2020
- Collaborative Projects, Elms Campus Ministry. Programs included a discussion on *water* in religious traditions, interfaith prayer services, and retreat planning Spring - Summer 2020
- ITPS Certificate Proposal and Presentation, Diocese of Springfield, MA October 2019 - February 2020

#### **Elms College, Search Committees**

- Search Committee Member: Director of Student Accommodations and Support Services (SASS) July – August 2024
- Search Committee Member: Vice President of Academic Affairs December 2023 – April 2024
- Search Committee Member: Business and Finance Faculty Search May – July 2023
- Search Committee Member: Fine Arts Faculty Search December 2021 – May 2022

#### **Elms College, Committee & Advisory Work**

- Committee Member, Elms College’s 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration July 2025 – Present
- Advisory Work, The D’Amour Center for Faculty Teaching Excellence Fall 2023 - Present
- Co-Chair, Ad-hoc Planning Committee, Sr. Mary Dooley Lecture Series Fall 2021 - Present
- Title IX Committee Member Spring 2020 – Present
- Faculty Development Committee Member  
*Chair* Fall 2021 – May 2025  
*Fall 2024 – May 2025*
- Advising Committee Member Fall 2021 – May 2025
- Committee Member, Educating Character Initiative (Grant Application), Elms College February 2024 – June 2025
- NEH Student Grant, Faculty Reviewer Spring 2025
- Committee Member, Elms College’s 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration January 2023 – December 2023
- Co-Chair, Sub-Committee on Mission and Identity for the New England Commission for Higher Education Accreditation Review, Elms College November 2021 – December 2023
- Speakers Panel Member, 2023 Black Experience Summit, Elms College October 2022 – February 2023

- Synod at Elms College, Ad-hoc Committee; *in conjunction with the Diocese of Springfield, MA* March – May 2022
- Search Committee Member: Fine Arts Faculty Search December – April 2022
- Assessment Committee Member (Temporary) Fall 2020
- Lily Foundation Grant, Ad-hoc Committee Member Summer 2020
- NEH Student Grant, Faculty Reviewer Spring 2020
- Ethical Leadership Committee Member Spring 2020
- Advisory Board Member: St. Augustine Center for Ethics, Religion, and Culture, Elms College 2020 - Present

#### ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Advisory Board Member: Centre of Excellence for Educational Technology and Enhanced Learning, Federal College of Education, Zaria, Nigeria December 2021 - Present
- Voting Member, Interfaith Council of Greater Springfield (<https://icgs-ma.org/>) 2019 - Present
- Monthly Meeting 'Host' & Executive Team Member, Interfaith Council of Greater Springfield (<https://icgs-ma.org/>) September 2023 – December 2024
- Interim Communications Officer, Interfaith Council of Great Springfield January 2023 – August 2023
- Career development and academic teaching support via the management of [www.duq.edu/cte](http://www.duq.edu/cte), Duquesne University's Center for Teaching Excellence website July 2013 – July 2016
- Evaluation Committee for the Graduate Student Award for Excellence in Teaching, Duquesne University 2013 - 2016
  - Spring 2014 and Spring 2015 as a non-voting advisor to the committee
  - Spring 2013 as a voting member of the committee
- Contributing Editor and Writer: Duquesne University's Center for Teaching Excellence's *The Flourishing Academic*, [flourishingacademic.wordpress.com](http://flourishingacademic.wordpress.com) August 2014 – August 2015
- Acknowledgement for editing work, Dragoş Andrei Giulea, *Pre-Nicene Christology in Paschal Contexts: The Case of the Divine Anthropos* (Boston: Brill, 2013). 2013

#### SERVICE TO THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD, MA

- Committee Member, Elms College-Diocese of Springfield, MA Partnership: Diocesan School Program and Certification January 2024 - Present
- Co-Chair, Elms College-Diocese of Springfield Certificate Program Development August 2023 - Present
- Lector, St. Mary's Parish, Longmeadow, MA September 2021 – Present
- Co-Facilitator, Latino Ministry Series with the Office of Latino Ministry Fall Semesters: 2019 - Present
- Search Committee Member, Catholic Schools Superintendent June – December 2022
- Volunteer, Vacation Bible School, St. Mary's Parish, Longmeadow, MA June 2021

## ACADEMIC COURSES DESIGNED AND TAUGHT:

### ELMS COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

- HUM 2000: Climate Ethics: The Blue Marble, Religion, & Philosophy (Fall 2024; co-taught with Dr. Jason Murphy, Philosophy)
- IDS 1001: First-Year Seminar (Fall 2020 and Fall 2021)
- REL 1001: Contemporary Catholicism (Fall 2019; Fall 2021, Spring 2023, Fall 2025 [online])
- REL 2001: Faith and Revelation (Fall 2020)
- REL 2004: Contemporary Christian Ethics (Spring 2020 and Fall 2025)
- REL 2008: Hebrew Scriptures (Fall 2022)
- REL 2063: Religion and Sci-Fi (Spring 2021)
- REL 2100: Christian Scriptures (Spring 2023 and 2024)
- REL 2104: World Religions: Eastern Traditions (Spring Semesters: Spring 2020 – Spring 2025); *Included a field trip to The New England Peace Pagoda – Spring 2025*
- REL 2104 - Online: World Religions: Eastern Traditions (Fall 2023, Summer 2024, Summer 2025)
- REL 2105: World Religions: Western Traditions (Fall Semesters: Fall 2019 – Fall 2024)
- REL 2105 - Online: World Religions: Western Traditions (Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Summer 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Summer 2021, Spring 2022, Summer 2022, Fall 2022, Summer 2024, Spring 2025, Summer 2025)
- REL 2108: Religion in the U.S. (Fall 2025)
- REL 2201: Good Habits: The History & Mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph (Spring 2022)
- Independent Study: Introduction to the Bible (Spring 2020)
- Independent Study: Liberation Theology (Fall 2020)
- Independent Study: Christian Scriptures (Fall 2021)
- Independent Study: Exploring Catholic Mission Statements & Succession Plans (Summer 2022)
- Independent Study: Sacraments (Fall 2022)
- Independent Study: Religious Art (Spring 2023; co-taught with Dr. Amber Scoon, Art Department)
- Independent Study: Development and Authorship of Christian Scriptures (Spring 2024)

### DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

- UCOR 141: Biblical and Historical Perspectives (Fall 2018 and Spring 2019)
- UCOR 143: Global and Cultural Perspectives – World Religions (Spring 2018, Fall 2018, and Spring 2019)
- UCOR 152: Theological Ethics (Fall 2016, Spring and Fall 2017, and Spring 2018)
- THEO 280: Faith and Reason (Fall 2011 and Fall 2012)

### ELMS COLLEGE GRADUATE COURSES

Elms College's Master of Arts in Applied Theology (MAAT) is currently dormant.

- BUS 6100: Global Political Economy & Social Ethical Responsibility (Spring 2022, Spring 2023; co-taught with Dr. David C. Kimball, Business Division)
- REL 6303: Society, Church, and Ethics (Spring 2020)
- Independent Study: Contemporary Issues in Christology (Fall 2020)
- Independent Study: Interfaith Dialogue (Fall 2021)
- Independent Study: World Religions for Master's Students (Summer 2021, Summer 2022 [online])

### PREPARATORY SCHOOL COURSES TAUGHT

- Freshmen Curriculum: World Religions, Contemporary Old Testament Studies, and Human Sexual Ethics; included discussions of the summer book study: Chaim Potok's, *The Chosen*.
- Sophomore Curriculum: Contemporary New Testament Studies and Roman Catholic Sacraments; included discussions of the summer book study: Herman Hesse's *Siddhartha*.

**SERVICE TO THE TOWN OF LONGMEADOW, MA & GREATER SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY**

- Elected, Executive Board Member, Black Rose Academy of Irish Dance Club (BRAID Club) September 2023 – Present
- Search Committee Member, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, Longmeadow School District July 2023
- Assistant Little League & Babe Ruth League Baseball Coach Summers 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025

**AWARDS**

- Faculty Development Grant Recipient Fall 2019, Fall 2021, Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025  
Elms College, Chicopee, MA
- Early Career Faculty Success Grant Recipient 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024  
Elms College, Chicopee, MA
- Humanities Division: Faculty Development Funds, NEH Challenge Grant Endowment 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025  
Elms College, Chicopee, MA
- Nominee – The 2018 K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award 2018  
Association of American Colleges & Universities; Washington, D.C.
- Department of Theology, Teaching Assistantship 2016 - 2017  
Duquesne University; Pittsburgh, PA
- University Provost’s Award, Tuition Remission 2015 - 2016  
Duquesne University; Pittsburgh, PA
- Department of Theology, Teaching Assistantship and Tuition Remission 2009 - 2013  
Duquesne University; Pittsburgh, PA