

J. Thomas Howe
Department of Religious Studies and Honors Program
Regis University
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ACADEMIC SPECIALTY

Philosophy of Religion and Theology

EDUCATION

Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA

Ph.D. in Religion (Philosophy of Religion and Theology) Dissertation:
“Whitehead, Nietzsche, and the Problem of Nihilism” Director: David Ray
Griffin

Yale Divinity School, New Haven, CT

M.A.R. in Religion (Systematic Theology)

Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL

B.A. in Philosophy

Thesis: Bondage and Freedom: A Religious Existential Approach

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Regis University, Denver, CO

Professor of Religious Studies	2021 to present
Associate Professor of Religious Studies	2015 to 2021
Director, Honors Program	2014 to 2021
Assistant Professor of Religious Studies	2011 to 2015
Associate Director, Honors Program	2011-2014
Affiliate Instructor	2006-2011

Courses Taught:

<i>The Problem of Evil</i>	<i>Religion and the Human Quest</i>
<i>Does Nothing Matter?</i>	<i>Philosophical Explorations</i>
<i>Belief and Unbelief</i>	<i>Philosophy and Theology of Love</i>
<i>Beauty and the Meaning of Human Life</i>	
<i>Justice for All: Reflections on the Common Good (Honors)</i>	
<i>Magis and the Search for Meaning (Honors)</i>	
<i>Chaos and Order: The Sciences of Human Understanding (Honors)</i>	
<i>The Idea of a University (Honors First Year Writing)</i>	

Tradition and Innovation: The Human Story (Honors)
Honors Thesis Research Seminar (3 semester sequence)

University Service: Working Toward the Future (WTF) Committee (2021-present)
Undergraduate Research Advisory Committee (2018-2021)
College Core Curriculum Committee (2014-2021)
Honors Advisory Council (2011-present)
Graduate Scholarship Committee (2011-2021)
Ignation Advising Network (2015-2016)
Professional Colleges Core Curriculum Task Force (2014-2015)
Faculty Development Committee (2012-2015)
Pre-Law Advisory Committee (2015-2016)
Pre-Medical/Health Advisory Committee (2012-2015)
Professional Learning Community for E-Portfolios (2013-2015)

Faculty

Development: Research Sabbatical (2017-2018)
Integrative Teaching Institute (2011 and 2013)
Collegium: A Colloquy on Faith and Intellectual Life (2013, University of Portland)

Illiff School of Theology, Denver, CO

Adjunct Professor **2007-2010**

Courses Taught: Ph.D., M.A., and M.Div. courses
Process Philosophy and Theology
Science and Religion
20th Century American Theology
Religion and Literature
God, Christ, and Process Thought

Georgetown University, Washington, DC

Professorial Lecturer in Theology **2001-2006**

Courses Taught: *The Problem of God*
Science and Religion
Tragic Literature and Christian Theology
Feminist Thought and Christian Theology

Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, IA

Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion **2000-2001**

Courses Taught: *Introduction to Religious Studies*
The Question of Faith

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Faithful to the Earth: Nietzsche and Whitehead on God and the Meaning of Human Life. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2003.

Essays:

“Living for Beauty: Pater, Plato, and Whitehead,” in *Conceiving an Alternative: Philosophical Resources for An Ecological Civilization*, ed. Demian Wheeler and David E. Connor. Process Century Press, 2019.

“What’s Left When Nothing’s Left: St. Augustine, Cormac McCarthy, and the Apocalypse” in *Augustine and the Apocalyptic*, ed. Kim Paffenroth and Kari Kloos. Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2014.

“Affirmations after God: Friedrich Nietzsche and Richard Dawkins on Atheism,” *Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science*, March 2012.

“Science and Process Theology,” *Religion Compass*, December 2009.

“Response to David Conner’s ‘Whitehead the Naturalist,’” *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy*, May 2009.

“Process Theology and the Problem of Evil,” (co-authored with John Woell), *Religion Compass*, October 2008.

Book Reviews:

Book review of Charles Mathewes, *The Republic of Grace: Augustinian Thoughts for Dark Times* in *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy*, January, 2013

Book review of Lance Morrow, *Evil: An Examination*, in *Interreligious Insight: A Journal of Dialogue and Engagement*, April 2008

Book note on Christine Helmer, ed., *Schleiermacher and Whitehead: Open Systems in Dialogue*, in *Religious Studies Review*, April 2006.

Book Review of David Ray Griffin, ed., *Deep Religious Pluralism*, in *Interreligious Insight: A Journal of Dialogue and Engagement*, October 2005.

PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 *6th European Summer School in Process Thought*, Katowice, Poland
“Tragic Beauty and the Love of Nature”
This conference paper was accepted for presentation, but it was not delivered due to COVID-19.
- 2020 *National Collegiate Honors Council*, Annual Meeting, Dallas, TX
“Imagining Others: Empathy, Selfhood, and Honors Education,” with Kathy Cooke (University of South Alabama) and Jeffrey Hause (Creighton University).
This conference paper was accepted for presentation, but it was not delivered due to COVID-19.
- 2019 *National Collegiate Honors Council*, Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
“Reimagining the Power of the Past: Utilizing Tradition for Transformation,” with Jeffrey Hause (Creighton University) and Kathy Cooke (University of South Alabama)
- 2019 *Religious Studies Faculty Research Symposium*, Regis University
“John Ruskin and the Promise of Fragile Beauty”
- 2018 *5th European Summer School in Process Thought*, University of South Bohemia, Českých Budějovicích
Beauties – Tragic and Fragile: Whitehead and Ruskin on Our Ends
- 2016 *University of Colorado, Denver Invited Lecture*,
“Living for Beauty: Pater, Plato, and Whitehead”
- 2014 *Pomona College, International Whitehead Conference*
“Living for Beauty, Pater, Plato, and Whitehead”
- 2014 *National Collegiate Honors Council*, Annual Meeting, Denver, CO
“Taking Integration to New Heights,” with Matthew McGowan
- 2012 *Institute for American Religious and Philosophical Thought*, Manitou Springs, CO
“The Cultivation of Gratitude in a Religion of Nature”
- 2012 *Fall Faculty Conference*, Regis College
“Redeeming our Speck of the World,” with Thomas Bowie, Mark Bruhn, and Daryl Palmer
- 2012 *National Collegiate Honors Council*, Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN
“Balancing Heart and Mind: Integrative Education and Spirituality”

- 2012 *AJCU Honors Conference*, Fordham University, NY
 “What Makes a Good Honors Classroom”
- 2011 *National Collegiate Honors Council*, Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
 “Justice for All: Navigating Conflict,” with Thomas Bowie
- 2010 *American Academy of Religion*, Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
 “Affirmations after God: Nietzsche and Dawkins on Atheism”
- 2009 *Pothoff Group*, Iliff School of Theology (Invited Lecture)
 “Acceptance and the Desire for More: Nietzsche and Whitehead on Tragedy”
- 2007 *European Studies Conference*, University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE
 “Richard Dawkins and Friedrich Nietzsche on Atheism”
- 2006 *Sixth Annual International Whitehead Conference*, Salzburg, Austria
 “Acceptance and the Desire for More: Nietzsche and Whitehead on Tragedy”
- 2005 *School of Religion*, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA (invited lecture)
 “Beautiful Visions, Tragic Ends-Tragic Vision, Beautiful Ends: Whitehead and Redemption”
- 2000 *Center for Process Studies*, Claremont, CA
 “Whitehead and Nietzsche on God and the Meaning of Human Life”
- 1999 *Iowa Philosophical Society*, Iowa City, IA
 “Nietzsche and Whitehead on the Decadent Desire for Static Being”
- 1997 *Lake Forest College*, Lake Forest, IL
 “St. Augustine and the Direction of Desire”
- 1996 *American Academy of Religion, Western Region*, San Diego, CA
 “A Cross History: Nietzsche and the Writing of Christian History”
- 1995 *American Academy of Religion, Western Region*, Redlands, CA
 “The Lost and Found: Articulations of the Self in Augustine and Nietzsche”

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2001-2009** Board of Visitors: Council on Protestant Studies, School of Religion, Claremont Graduate University
- 2000** Bross Foundation Decennial Prize

Faithful to the Earth: Nietzsche and Whitehead on God and the Meaning of Human Life
(An award given every decade to the best unpublished manuscript on the relation between any discipline and Christianity. I ncluded a cash prize of \$15,000)

2000 Visiting Scholar, Center for Process Studies, Claremont, CA

1997-1998 Dissertation Grant, Claremont Graduate University

1996-1997 Humanities Fellow, Claremont Graduate University

1989 The Scott Award in Religion, Lake Forest College

1989 Graduated with Honors, Lake Forest College

1988-1989 Independent Scholars Program, Lake Forest College

Professional Service

2020-present Manuscript Reviewer, *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy*

2018-2020 Co-Chair, AJCU Honors Consortium

2018 External Reviewer, Honors Program, LeMoyne College

2016 External Reviewer, Honors Program, John Carroll University

SOCIETIES

American Academy of Religion

Center for Process Studies

Institute for American Religious and Philosophical Thought

