

# MEGAN HOPKINS

Curriculum Vitae

April 2024

Megan.Hopkins@bc.edu

## EDUCATION

- 2025  
(anticipated) **Doctor of Philosophy**  
Boston College  
Area: Comparative Theology  
Minor concentration in Systematic Theology
- 2018 **Master of Theological Studies**  
Boston College School of Theology and Ministry
- 2015 **Bachelor of Arts Honors**  
Villanova University  
Majors: Theology, Humanities

*Additional postgraduate study (for credit, non-matriculating)*

- 2021 Classical and Qur'anic Arabic Harvard University  
2020 Visiting Scholar, Theological & Religious Studies Georgetown University

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 "Epistemology and Embodiment at the Ritual Turn." American Academy of Religion, November. San Diego, CA. Comparative Studies in Religion Unit.
- 2024 "Conversion through Convalescence: Recovering the Disabled St. Ignatius of Loyola." Catholic Theological Society of America Annual Convention, June 14. Baltimore, MD. Disability Theology Interest Group.
- 2024 "Holy Unknowing, Unifying Love: Hafiz and Mechthild of Magdeburg." College Theology Society, May 31. Denver, CO. Comparative Theology Section.
- 2022 "Secularism, Religious Pluralism, and the Jesuit University" with Pep Mária, SJ. International Association of Jesuit Universities Assembly, August 5. Chestnut Hill, MA.
- 2022 "Ritual as Comparative Source Material: Illustrated through Eucharist and *Dhikr*." Catholic Theological Society of America Convention, June 11. Atlanta, GA.  
*Panel organized:* "Emerging Methods in (Meta-)Confessional Comparative Theology" for the Comparative Theology Topic Session.
- 2021 "Affective Kenosis as Feminine Ideal? Recasting the Legacies of Fātimah and Mary towards Gender Solidarity and Liberation." American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 20, San Antonio, TX.  
*Panel organized:* "Agency, Liberation, Transformation: Feminist Comparative Theological Perspectives" for the Comparative Theology Unit.

- 2021 “A Holistic Understanding of the Human Person: Christian and Muslim Perspectives on Disability.” College Theology Society, June 5. Held virtually.
- 2020 “Existent as Worship: The Embodied Cosmologies of Ibn ‘Arabi and Bonaventure.” Patristic, Medieval, Renaissance Studies Conference, October 16. Held virtually.
- 2020 “Implementing a Disability Ethic on College Campuses: Justice, Solidarity, Hospitality.” Institute for Theology and Disability, May 18-21. Conference cancelled due to COVID-19.
- 2020 “Presence and Intention in Interfaith Ritual Observation.” Crossing Boundaries of Faith: Towards a Christian Theological Understanding of Inter-Religious Ritual Participation: Challenges, Risks, Opportunities, March 4. Glasgow, UK.
- 2019 “Reclaiming Porosity within the Immanent Frame: Mining Wisdom from *dhikr*.” Patristic, Medieval, Renaissance Studies Conference, October 19. Wayne, PA.
- 2018 “Implementing Faith-Sensitive Programming in the Experiential Environment.” NEOAir, an Experiential and Outdoor Education Conference, December 8. Durham, NH.
- 2016 “Finding Echoes of Real Presence in *dhikr*.” Engaging Particularities, April 3. Chestnut Hill, MA.

## PUBLICATIONS

- forthcoming* “Interfaith Experiential Education: Identity, Perspective, Action” in *Interreligious Studies and Secondary Education: Pedagogies and Practices for Living and Learning in a Religiously Plural World*, ed., Lucinda Mosher, Christine Gallagher, and Axel Tákcacs. Interreligious Studies Press. Anticipated August 2024.
- in progress* “The Liturgical Formation of Morality” in “Horizons: The Journal of the College Theology Society.” Cambridge UP. Anticipated December 2024.
- in progress* “Sacramentality in Islam and Christianity: A Comparative-Theological Approach” in *Concilium* 2025/2: “Sacramentality: The World as Sign and Instrument of God’s Presence,” Edited by Stephan van Erp, Beatrice Faye, Tom McLean, Carlos Schickendantz.
- 2017 “Welcoming All to the Table.” *C21 Resources*, September 2017. 18-19.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Boston College

- Spring 2022 Teaching Assistant to Dr. Brian Robinette, *God, Self, and Society*
- Fall 2021 Teaching Assistant to Dr. Natana DeLong-Bas, *Islam and Christianity in Dialogue*
- Spring 2021 Teaching Assistant to Dr. Brian Robinette, *God, Self, and Society*
- Fall 2020 Teaching Assistant to Dr. Meghan Sweeney, *Person and Social Responsibility (PULSE)*

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019-2024 Boston College University Fellowship

**INVITED TALKS**

- 2024 “Disability Activism, Academics, and Ministry in Boston and Beyond.” Institute for Theology and Disability. June 17.
- 2024 “Embodying the Word: A Contemplative Muslim-Christian Comparative Theology.” Boston College Comparative Theology Colloquium. January 26.
- 2023 “Listen Like Ignatius Would,” for the Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Center’s Big Talk Series, November 13. Boston College.
- 2023 “Embodying the Word: A Contemplative Muslim-Christian Comparative Theology” for the Muslim-Catholic Scholars in Dialogue, March 4. Catholic University of America. Cancelled due to health concerns.
- 2022 “Construction of Liturgy for Disability.” at “Cosecha” Colloquium: The Liturgical Life of Ecclesial Base Communities in El Salvador, November 26. San Salvador, El Salvador. Cancelled due to health concerns.
- 2021 “Affective Kenosis as Feminine Ideal? Recasting the Legacies of Fātimah and Mary towards Gender Solidarity and Liberation.” Boston College Comparative Theology Colloquium. October 1.
- 2021 “Generous God of the Religions: Interreligious Dialogue Today.” Guest lecturer in undergraduate course, Person and Social Responsibility II, taught by Dr. Meghan Sweeney. Boston College. April 5.
- 2020 “Ritual Observation of the Religious Other: Experiential Education towards Empathy.” Boston College Comparative Theology Colloquium. November 13.

**SERVICE TO THE ACADEMY**

- AY 2023-24 Conference Director, Engaging Particularities Conference, Boston College. September 17-18, 2024. Keynote Lecture: Dr. Frank Clooney.
- Spring 2023 Assistant Guest Editor, *Journeying in Faith Amid Polarization. C21 Resources*, Fall 2023. Guest Editor Brian Robinette.
- July 2022 Doctoral Student Reporter, Workshop on Jesuit Student Formation and Religious Diversity, July 3-7. ESADE, Barcelona, Spain.
- 2022- Coordinator, Disabled and Neurodiverse Scholars Caucus, College Theology Society
- AY 2022-23 Conference Co-organizer, Accessing the Divine Conference. Interdependent Bodies: Disability, Creation, and Reimagining Relationality, Boston College. March 5, 2023. Keynote Lecture: Dr. Julia Watts Belser.
- AY 2021-22 Communications Director, Engaging Particularities Conference, Boston College. March 12-13, 2023. Keynote Lecture: Dr. Catherine Cornille.

- AY 2021-22 Conference Co-organizer, Accessing the Divine: Disability, Embodiment, and Proclaiming Joyous Futures, Boston University School of Theology. March 25, 2022. Keynote Lecture: Dr. Sharon Betcher.
- AY 2021-22 Communications Director, Engaging Particularities Conference, Boston College. March 20-21, 2022. Keynote Lecture: Dr. Tracy Teimeier.
- AY 2020-21 Communications Director, Engaging Particularities Conference, Boston College. March 21-22, 2021. Keynote Lecture: Dr. Ruth Langer and Fr. Dr. Demetrios Tonia.
- AY 2019-20 Communications Director, Engaging Particularities Conference, Boston College. Conference cancelled due to COVID-19.

### SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

- 2024  
2023 Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, Speaker at Accepted Students Day, *The Academy as Ministry*
- 2022- Resident Minister, Boston College
- AY 2022-23  
AY 2021-22 Boston College School of Theology and Ministry Alumni Ambassador
- AY 2021-22 Thesis Mentor, Villanova University Honors Program
- 2016-2018 Member of Boston College's *Faculty Seminar on Priesthood and Ministry for the Contemporary Church*. Seminar's final document "To Serve the People of God: Renewing the Conversation on Priesthood and Ministry" was published in *Origins* 48 no. 31 (December 27, 2018): 484-493.
- AY 2017-18 Interreligious Engagement Committee, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry

### SERVICE TO CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

- 2023- Board Member, Granite State YMCA Camping Services Advisory Board
- 2020 Participant in the Boston College Conference on Priesthood and Ministry, January 2-3, 2020. The "Communiqué of Conference on "To Serve the People of God: Renewing the Conversation on Priesthood and Ministry"" was published in *Origins* 49, no. 33 (January 16, 2020): 525-27.
- AY 2014-15 Peer Mentor, Faith and Reason Learning Community, Villanova University
- 2012-2015 Liturgical Council, Villanova University
- 2012-2015 Student Run Emergency Housing Unit of Philadelphia  
Villanova University Chapter President, AY 2013-14, AY 2014-2015

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CERTIFICATIONS

<i>ongoing</i>	Boston College Apprenticeship in College Teaching Program
2022	Understanding Diversity and Inclusion: Exploring Four Indic Traditions & Cultures of India, Uberoi Foundation for Religious Studies
2021	Boston College Research & Scholarship Integrity Program
2020	Center for Teaching Excellence Graduate Student Teaching Conference

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016-2022	<p>Director of Education &amp; Outreach, Mosaic: Interfaith Youth Action (formerly Kids4Peace Boston), Newton, MA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designed and implemented curricula for learners age 12-18, focused on creating social change and engaging in dialogue across religious differences, especially across Judaism, Christianity, and Islam</li> <li>• Directed flagship eight-day overnight Peace Leader Camp program; hired, trained, supervised, and evaluated staff team of 8 while managing the education and well-being of 24 youth in a safe and supportive overnight camp environment</li> <li>• Oversee the pedagogical methods employed across the organization; ensured consistent, contemporary, and best practices in experiential, interfaith, and social justice education</li> <li>• Served as supervisor for the theological and ministerial field education of three graduate students, two from Hebrew College and one from Harvard Divinity School</li> </ul>
2015-2019	<p>Graduate Assistant, Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Center, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisted with editing, production, and distribution of biannual <i>C21 Resources</i> magazine</li> <li>• Facilitated student development through the Agape Latte program and Espresso Your Faith Week; supported undergraduate student-led initiatives, providing resources for student growth and accompanied students along their faith journey</li> <li>• Engaged with the University community via social media, creating mission-aligned branded content through graphic design, photography, and copy</li> </ul>

## LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Classical Arabic: proficient reading and oral comprehension

Ecclesiastical Latin: proficient reading comprehension

French: basic reading and oral comprehension

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion

College Theology Society

Catholic Theological Society of America (associate member)