GRADUATE PROGRAM
THEOLOGY
Boston College offers exceptional resources for Catholic and ecumenical study of all fields of theology. The Department of Theology provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary for reasoned reflection on their own values, faith and tradition, as well as on the religious forces that shape our world. Boston College offers unusual resources for Catholic and ecumenical study in all areas of theology. Not only is the Department of Theology considered one of the foremost such departments in the country, but the city of Boston is also one of the richest environments in the world for the study of theology.

The Boston Theological Institute (BTI), a consortium of theology faculties primarily in the Boston-Newton-Cambridge area, has as its constituent members the following institutions: Andover-Newton Theological School, Boston College Department of Theology, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, Boston University School of Theology, Episcopal Divinity School, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Harvard Divinity School, Hebrew College, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Seminary and St. John’s Seminary. This consortium offers complete cross-registration in several hundred courses, the use of library facilities in the 10 schools, joint seminars and programs and faculty exchange programs (bostontheological.org).

WELCOME TO GRADUATE THEOLOGY

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Ph.D. Program

The goal of the doctoral program in theology is the formation of theologians who excel intellectually in the church, the academy and society. It is confessional in nature and envisions theology as “faith seeking understanding.” Accordingly, the program aims at nourishing a community of faith, scholarly conversation, and research and teaching centered in the study of Christian life and thought, past and present, in ways that contribute to this goal. It recognizes that creative theological discussion and specialized research require serious and in-depth appropriation of the great philosophical and theological traditions of the past, as well as ecumenical, interdisciplinary, inter-religious and cross-cultural cooperation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

♦ Students are expected to acquire a rigorous mastery of the Judeo-Christian tradition, enabling them to critically probe the foundations of various theological positions.
♦ Students are expected to command the tools and techniques of research particular to their field and to organize and integrate their knowledge in such a way as to make an original contribution to the academic study of theology.
♦ Students are expected to engage in ecumenical, inter-religious, interdisciplinary and cross-cultural academic conversation as appropriate to their discipline.
♦ Students are expected to acquire the skills and competencies necessary to present papers at appropriate academic conferences and to publish the results of their research in respected peer-reviewed journals.
♦ Students are expected to acquire the skills and competencies necessary to succeed not only as active scholars, but also as effective teachers.
AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Students in the doctoral program focus their studies in one of five major areas: Historical Theology/History of Christianity, Systematic Theology, Biblical Studies, Theological Ethics or Comparative Theology. The faculty in each major area determine requirements regarding course distribution, language requirements, comprehensive examinations and minors. A minimum of two years of full-time course work is normally required. Doctoral students in our program typically serve as teaching assistants during their second and third years and as teaching fellows during their fifth year.

The Historical Theology/History of Christianity (HT/HC) area studies past theological reflection on the faith and practice of the Church, with a particular focus on early and medieval Christianity. The HT/HC area strives to appreciate these theological expressions both within their immediate historical contexts (social, cultural, institutional) and within the broader trajectories of theological development in the Christian tradition.

Systematic Theology is the contemporary intellectual reflection on the content of divine revelation as an interrelated whole. The faculty seek to develop the student’s ability to treat theological material systematically and constructively; that is, according to a method that attends to the coherence and interconnectedness of the elements of the Christian tradition. The necessary role of historical, dogmatic and descriptive theological activity is thereby acknowledged. Systematic theology emphasizes the interrelationships that exist among central theological themes and topics while being sensitive to the socio-cultural contexts and dynamics within which these issues emerge.

The Biblical Studies area focuses on the canonical books of the Bible, both within their historical and cultural worlds and in relation to their reception within the Christian and Jewish traditions. All students acquire a thorough competency in both the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible and the New Testament, including competency in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek. Students may learn other ancient languages and literatures as their research requires. The comprehensive exams cover the whole Bible, with emphasis on either the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible or the New Testament, and include a specialized exam in an area of study pertinent to the student’s dissertation.

Theological Ethics includes the ecumenical study of major Roman Catholic and Protestant ethicists and attends to the Biblical foundations and theological contexts of ethics. Proceeding from the conviction that faith and reason are complementary, the program explores the contributions of philosophical thought, both past and present. It includes a strong social ethics component as well as offerings in applied ethics. The exploration of contemporary ethics is set in a critical, historical perspective and encourages attention to the global and multicultural character of the Christian community.

Comparative Theology prepares students for careful theological reflection, usually from a Christian perspective, on non-Christian religions in their particularity and regarding their significance for theology. Comparative Theology entails the study of one or more religious traditions in addition to one’s own, as well as critical reflection on one’s own tradition in light of the other tradition or traditions. Students are expected to acquire a significant understanding of a major non-Christian religion as well as a critical method used in the study of religions; for example, philosophy of religion, comparative religion or history of religions.

Like all other areas of theology, Comparative Theology’s ultimate horizon is knowledge of God, the transcendent or the nature of ultimate reality; it aims to be constructive theology. The practitioner, while rooted in one tradition (in this program, normally Christianity), becomes deeply affected by systematic, consistent attention to the details of one or more other religious and theological traditions, thereby informing continuing theological reflection upon his or her own tradition. It is this focused attention to the distinctive details of different traditions that distinguishes Comparative Theology from the Theology of Religions, but also opens the possibility of a newly and more deeply informed Theology of Religions.

In turn, this study is brought into dialogue with some particular theme or topic of study in Christian Theology, and articulated in light of a Theology of Religions. Students in this area are thus prepared to take up a wide range of research projects and also to teach one or more religious traditions in addition to chosen areas of Christian Theology.
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

M.A. Joint Program in Philosophy and Theology

If you have questions and interests that lead you into both philosophy and theology, or would like to deepen your understanding of each field by opening it to the other, you might consider pursuing an M.A. in philosophy and theology at Boston College.

Drawing on the resources of major departments and distinguished authorities in each field, and situated at the heart of a prominent Jesuit, Catholic university, this program is structured around distinct concentrations that address major areas of common concern to the two fields, and explores their historical, systematic and disciplinary relations. Students develop a program of study in discussion with an academic advisor and take courses in the standard graduate programs offered by the Philosophy and Theology departments. Concentrations include: Faith, Science and Philosophy; Foundations in Philosophy and Theology; Medieval Philosophy and Theology; and Philosophy and Religions.

This program is designed to address the various interests of students who wish to augment graduate study of philosophy with greater exposure to theology or graduate study of theology with greater exposure to philosophy; plan to teach or are currently teaching in private secondary schools; or simply feel in need of intellectual enrichment.

FACULTY PROFILES

AMEY VICTORIA ADKINS
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Duke University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Mariology, theological anthropology, iconography and visual theory, womanist theology and Black feminist thought, human trafficking, prison industrial complex

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

STEPHEN F. BROWN
Professor
Ph.D., Université de Louvain

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Medieval philosophy and theology, especially 13th and 14th centuries

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
❖ Philosophical Debates at Paris in the Early Fourteenth Century (Brill, 2009).
❖ Historical Dictionary of Medieval Philosophy and Theology (Scarecrow Press, 2005).

LISA SOWLE CAHILL
J. Donald Monan Professor
Ph.D., University of Chicago

RESEARCH INTERESTS
History of Christian ethics; Christology and ethics; Catholic social teaching and globalization; gender equality; bioethics; war and peacebuilding

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
❖ “Catholic Social Teaching as Political Theology.” In Cambridge Companion to Political Theology, eds. E. Phillips and C. Hovey (Cambridge University Press, 2016).

JEFFREY L. COOLEY
Associate Professor
Ph.D., Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Hebrew Bible in its ancient Near Eastern context; calendars; Sabbath; the intersection of ancient scholarship and literature; divination in the ancient Near East; myth and method; intercultural contact in the ancient Mediterranean

RECENT PUBLICATIONS


**BOYD TAYLOR COOLMAN**

Associate Professor

Ph.D., University of Notre Dame

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Medieval Catholicism; Victorine and early Franciscan traditions; emergence of scholastic theology; medieval mystical theologies

**RECENT PUBLICATIONS**


**M. SHAWN COPELEAND**

Professor

Ph.D., Boston College

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Theological and philosophical anthropology and political theology; African and African-derived religious and cultural experience; African-American intellectual history

**RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

- *Enfleshing Freedom: Body, Race, and Being* (Fortress Press, 2010).

**CATHERINE CORNILLE**

Newton College Alumnae Chair in Western Culture

Ph.D., Catholic University of Leuven

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Comparative theology; theology of religions; interreligious dialogue; religious hybridity; concrete questions in the Hindu-Christian and Buddhist-Christian dialogues

**RECENT PUBLICATIONS**


**JOHN A. DARR**

Associate Professor, Graduate Program Director

Ph.D., Vanderbilt University

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**


**RECENT PUBLICATIONS**


**DOUG FINN**

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of Notre Dame

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Patristics; Augustine; John Chrysostom; 19th-century theology and philosophy; Hegel; Trinitarian theology; scriptural exegesis; religious narrative and subjectivity; exemplarity and mimesis

**RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

FACULTY PROFILES

RICHARD R. GAILLARDETZ
Department Chairperson, Joseph Professor of Theology
Ph.D., University of Notre Dame

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Ecclesiology; Vatican II; ecumenism; authority and ministry

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

YONDER GILLIHAN
Associate Professor
Ph.D., University of Chicago

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Dead Sea Scrolls; Matthew and Paul; apocalypticism; Christian origins within the context of Jewish sectarianism in the late Second Temple period

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
◆ “Associations.” In Eerdmans Dictionary of Early Judaism, eds. J. Collins and D. Harlow (Eerdmans, 2010).

KIRSTIN HEYER
Professor
Ph.D., Boston College

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Catholic social thought; migration ethics; conscience and moral agency

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

MICHAELE HINES
Professor
Ph.D., University of Chicago

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
◆ On-going Incarnation: Johann Adam Möhler and the Beginnings of Modern Ecclesiology (Crossroad Herder, 1997).
◆ Johann Sebastian Drey: A Brief Introduction to the Study of Theology (translation and introduction) (University of Notre Dame Press, 1994).

KENNETH R. HINES, O.F.M.
Professor
Ph.D., Duke University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Ethical issues in war and peacebuilding; development of Catholic social teaching; the role of religion in American public life; fundamental moral theology

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
◆ Christianity and the Political Order: Conflict, Coopetation, and Cooperation (Orbis Books, 2013).

MARY ANN HINSDALE, L.H.M.
Associate Professor
Ph.D., University of St. Michael’s College, Toronto

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Ecclesiology, Christology, theological anthropology and feminist theologies; multidisciplinary approaches to Catholic Studies; use of participatory action research in theological reflection on the U.S. Catholic experience; Mary Magdalene as a resource for women’s ecclesial leadership

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
▶ Women Shaping Theology (Paulist Press, 2006).
▶ Co-author, ‘It Comes from the People’: Community Development and Local Theology (Temple University, 1995).

M. CATHELEEN KAVENY
Darald and Juliet Libby Professor
J.D., Ph.D., Yale University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Relationship of law, religion and ethics; public theology, mercy and justice; complicity; religion and rhetoric

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
▶ Discourse in the Public Square (Harvard University Press, 2016).

JAMES F. KEENAN, S.J.
Canisius Professor; Director of Jesuit Institute
Ph.D., Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Virtue ethics; Thomas Aquinas; History of theological ethics; public health ethics

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
▶ A History of Catholic Moral Theology in the Twentieth Century: From Confessing Sins to Liberating Consciences (Continuum, 2010).
▶ The Ethics of the Word: Voices in the Catholic Church Today (Rowman & Littlefield, 2010).
▶ Co-author, Paul and Virtue Ethics (Rowman & Littlefield, 2010).

RUTH LANGER
Professor
Ph.D., Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Jewish liturgy and Christian-Jewish relations

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
▶ Liturgy in the Life of the Synagogue (Eisenbrauns, 2005).

FRED LAWRENCE
Professor
Ph.D., University of Basel

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Topics surrounding political theology; how Christian and other religions can mediate a normative order of values, without which a society cannot flourish and may not even survive

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
▶ “Lonergan’s Search for a Hermeneutics of Authenticity: Re-originating Augustine’s Hermeneutics of Love.” In Lonergan’s Anthropology Revisited, eds. G. Whelan and A. Gregoriana (Gregorian and Biblical Press, 2015).

JOHN J. MAKRANSKY
Associate Professor of Buddhism and Comparative Theology
Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, Madison

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Researching connections among insight, compassion and devotion in Indian and Tibetan Buddhism; exploring what Buddhist and Christian theologians can learn from each other; adapting Buddhist forms of contemplative practice into accessible forms to help address current needs and support inter-religious learning

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
▶ “Compassion in Buddhist Psychology.” In Wisdom and Compassion in Psychotherapy (Guilford Press, 2012).
▶ “Compassion Beyond Fatigue: Contemplative Training for Educators, Activists and other Helping Professionals.” In Meditation and the Classroom (SUNY Press, 2011).
FACULTY PROFILES

MARK MASSA
Professor
Th.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
19th- and 20th-century Catholic thought and practice; the tradition of anti-Catholicism in North American public culture; the effects of Vatican II on American Catholic practice and belief; the history of Catholic theological battles in moral theology after Humanae Vitae

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:
- Catholics and American Culture: Fulton Sheen, Dorothy Day, and the Notre Dame Football Team. (Crossroad, 1999). [Winner of the ACJU/Alpha Sigma Nu Award for Outstanding Work in Theology for 1999-2001]

H. JOHN MCDARGH
Associate Professor
Ph.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Psychological study of religious development; the integration of spirituality and psychotherapy; contemporary psychoanalytic theory and theological anthropology

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

GREGORIO MONTEJO
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Marquette University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Theology; historical theology; philosophy; Thomas Aquinas; Christology; biblical theology; patristics; late antiquity

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

JAMES W. MORRIS
Professor
Ph.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Islamic philosophy and theology; Sufism; Islamic humanities (especially poetry and music); the Qur’an; Shiite thought; pilgrimage and popular devotional life

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:
- Openings: From the Qur’an to the Islamic Humanities (World Wisdom, forthcoming).
- Ostad Elahi: Knowing the Spirit (SUNY Press, 2007).
- The Reflective Heart: Discovering Spiritual Intelligence in Ibn ʿArabi’s ‘Meccan Illuminations’ (Fons Vitae, 2005).

DAVID MOZINA
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Modern and late imperial Daoism (907-present), especially its ritual components; modern folk Buddhist traditions and local ritual traditions in rural China; theological questions raised by comparative thinking with Chinese, Christian and secular Western theories of ritual, and their implications for interreligious dialogue

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:
- “Summoning the Exorcist: The Role of Heart Seals (xinyin 心印) in Calling Down a Demon-Quelling Deity in Contemporary Daoist Thunder Ritual.” In Exorcism in Daoism, ed. F.C. Reiter (Harrassowitz Verlag, 2011).

PHEME PERKINS
Professor
Ph.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Greco-Roman cultural setting of early Christianity; Hellenistic philosophy; Pauline epistles; Johannine writings; Resurrection and early Christian eschatology; Nag Hammadi corpus; Gnosticism; Irenaeus
RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- 1 Corinthians (Baker Academic, 2012).
- Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels (Eerdmans, 2007).

STEPHEN J. POPE

Professor
Ph.D., University of Chicago

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Christian ethics and evolutionary theory; love and justice in contemporary Christian ethics; charity and natural law in Aquinas; Roman Catholic social teachings

RECENT PUBLICATIONS


ANDREW PREVOT

Assistant Professor
Ph.D., University of Notre Dame

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Prayer and spirituality; phenomenology and theology; political and liberation theology; questions of identity; the doctrine of God

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- “Thinking Prayer: Theology and Spirituality Amid the Crises of Modernity” (University of Notre Dame Press, 2015).

BRIAN D. ROBINETTE

Associate Professor
Ph.D., University of Notre Dame

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Phenomenology; hermeneutics; mimetic theory; mystical theology; contemplative studies; theology of creation; doctrine of God

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Hebrew Scriptures, especially the Former and Latter Prophets; historical, cultural, theological and comparative analyses of ancient Israel’s literature; the relationship between Israel and the ancient empires of Assyria and Babylonia

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

faculties profiles


James M. Weiss
Associate Professor
Ph.D., The University of Chicago

Recent Publications
- Humanist Biography in Renaissance Italy and Reformation Germany: Friendship and Rhetoric (Ashgate, 2010).
- “Kennst Du das Land wo die Humanisten blühen? The Role of Italy in the Biographies of German Humanists, 1485-1585.” In Germania Latina ..., Politik, Wissenschaft, humanistische Kultur ... (vol. 1), eds. E. Kessler and H. Kuhn (Fink, 2003).

Jeremy D. Wilkins
Associate Professor
Ph.D., Boston College

Research Interests
Trinitarian theology; Christology; divine missions and the order of grace; Bernard Lonergan; Thomas Aquinas

Recent Publications
- “‘Our Conversation is in Heaven’: Conversation and/as Conversion in the Theology of Frederick Lawrence.” In Grace and Friendship: Theological Essays, eds. M.S. Copeland and J.D. Wilkins (Marquette, 2016).

courses

The combined and varied interests of the faculty, as indicated in the faculty profiles, ensure that the department offers a wide variety of graduate course electives. While the number and content of the graduate electives varies from year to year, the following list is illustrative of the range of courses offered.

Fall 2017

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Theology as Political</td>
<td>Copeland</td>
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<td>Biblical Hebrew</td>
<td>Vanderhoof</td>
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<tr>
<td>Authority of Scripture</td>
<td>Perkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith, Morality and Law</td>
<td>Kaveny</td>
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<td>Eucharist Christian Tradition</td>
<td>Coolman</td>
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<td>Ethics of War and Peace Making</td>
<td>K. Himes</td>
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<td>Theology of Religions</td>
<td>Cornille</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daoism</td>
<td>Mozina</td>
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<td>HIV/AIDS and Ethics</td>
<td>Keenan</td>
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<td>On the Trinity</td>
<td>Lawrence</td>
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<td>Doctrine of God</td>
<td>Robinette</td>
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<td>Encountering the Qur’an</td>
<td>Morris</td>
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<td>Parables of Jesus</td>
<td>Darr</td>
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<td>Redemption and Soteriology</td>
<td>Wilkins</td>
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Spring 2018

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<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aquinas and Neoplatonism</td>
<td>Montejo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Modern Theology</td>
<td>M. Himes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graeca</td>
<td>Perkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theology and Phenomenology</td>
<td>Prevot</td>
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<td>John and Virtue Ethics</td>
<td>Keenan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law and Religion</td>
<td>Kaveny</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophy/Church Fathers</td>
<td>Schatkin</td>
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<td>On the Trinity</td>
<td>Lawrence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dead Sea Scrolls</td>
<td>Gillihan</td>
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<td>Ecological Theology</td>
<td>Hinsdale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theology Ethics Politics</td>
<td>Cahill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Xian Ethics and Migration</td>
<td>Heyer</td>
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</table>
Recent Dissertations

2016-2017

Michael Cagney, “The Problem of Big Food and the Response of an Integrated Catholic Ecological Ethic”

Timothy J. Carey, “Remove the Harm, Lord of Men, and Give Healing”: Muslim and Catholic Responses to HIV and AIDS in Kenya

Jessica Coblenz, “Depression’s Challenge to Theologies of Suffering and Salvation”


Daniel P. Horan, OFM., “Imagining Planetarity: Toward a Postcolonial Franciscan Theology of Creation”

Joel B. Kemp, “A Case for Identity: The Book of Ezekiel, Juridical Diction, and Judahite Identity”

Nathaniel N.L. Peters, “The Trinitarian Dimensions of Cistercian Eucharistic Theology”

Nichole Flores, “Guadalupe in the Public Square: Religious Aesthetics and the Pursuit of Justice”

Christopher D. Jones, “The Midday Demon: A Moral, Theological and Biopsychosocial Analysis of Acedia”

Monica Jalandoni Nalupta, “Filipino Fortitude”

James O’Sullivan, “Development as Human Rights: An Examination of Catholic Social Teaching and the Right to Development”

Cristina Richie, “Moving Environmental Bioethics into the 21st Century: Green Bioethics and the Common Good”

Kate Ward, “Wealth, Poverty and Economic Inequality: A Christian Virtue Response”

Recent Placements

The Department of Theology takes an active role helping students search for attractive academic positions. Our recent students’ placements have included:

Barry University
Benedictine College
Catholic Theological Union
College of the Holy Cross
College of St. Benedict/St. John
Creighton University
Duquesne University
East Carolina University
Emmanuel College
Fairfield University
Gonzaga University
Heythrop College
Humboldt State University
Laboure College
Loyola Marymount
Manhattan College
Marquette University
Marymount University
Merrimack College
Misericordia University
University of Notre Dame
University of Portland
Providence College
Rivier College
Sacred Heart University
Saint Anselm College
Saint Gregory University
Saint John’s University
Saint Joseph College
Saint Joseph University
Saint Leo University
Saint Mary College, Moraga
Seattle University
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Scranton
University of Virginia
Villanova University
Xavier University
Yale Divinity School
The oldest and largest of the University’s eight schools and colleges, the Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences offers graduate programs in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, leading to the degrees of Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Arts and Master of Science. In addition, numerous dual-degree options are offered in cooperation with the Carroll School of Management, the Boston College Law School, the Lynch School of Education and the Graduate School of Social Work.

With approximately 1,000 students and 400 full-time faculty, the Graduate School is small enough to know you as a person, but large enough to serve you and prepare you for a rewarding life and satisfying career.

**Academic Resources**

**THE INSTITUTE OF MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY**

Boston College’s Institute of Medieval Philosophy and Theology unites the teaching and research efforts of faculty members in the Theology and Philosophy departments. The focus of the institute is on the relationship between medieval philosophy and theology and modern continental philosophy and theology.

The concentration of the Philosophy and Theology departments at Boston College lies in modern continental thought, so the context for carrying on a dialogue between medieval and modern philosophy and theology is well established. To foster this dialogue and encourage the scholarly retrieval of the great medieval intellectual tradition, the institute offers fellowships and assistantships and supports speakers programs and a faculty-student seminar to investigate new areas of medieval philosophical and theological research. The institute also runs a research center to assist in the publication of monographs and articles in the diverse areas of medieval philosophy and theology, and encourages the translation of medieval sources and the editing of philosophical and theological texts. For more information, call 617-552-0436.

**THE LONERGAN CENTER**

The Lonergan Center at Boston College fosters studies related to the work of the Jesuit theologian and philosopher Bernard Lonergan (1904-1984). Inaugurated in 1986, the center houses a growing collection of Lonergan’s published and unpublished writings, as well as secondary materials and reference works; it also serves as a seminar and meeting room. The center is located in Bapst Library. Boston College sponsors an annual Lonergan Workshop, which provides resources, lectures and workshops. For more information, call 617-552-8095 or visit bclonergan.org.

**THE BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY**

Boston College’s School of Theology and Ministry (STM) offers its students opportunities for comprehensive graduate theological education and spiritual formation for ministry. The School of Theology and Ministry offers an array of academic, theological, spiritual and pastoral courses for ministry, academic specialization and continuing education in faith.

**THE BOSTON THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE**

The Boston Theological Institute (BTI) allows graduate students to cross-register at Andover-Newton Theological School, Boston University School of Theology, Episcopal Divinity School, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Harvard Divinity School, Hebrew College, Holy Cross College (Greek Theology School) and St. John’s Seminary.

**BOSTON AREA CONSORTIUM**

The Boston Area Consortium allows graduate students to cross-register for courses at Boston University, Brandeis University and Tufts University.

**BOSTON COLLEGE LIBRARIES**

The University is home to eight libraries, containing 2.95 million volumes; more than 700 manuscript collections, including music, photos, art and artifacts; 625,000 e-books; and more than 600 electronic databases. O’Neill Library, Boston College’s main library, offers subject-specialist librarians to help with research, to set up alerts to publications in areas of interest and to answer any research- and library-related questions.

**THE BOSTON LIBRARY CONSORTIUM**

The Boston Library Consortium allows Boston College students access to millions of volumes and other services at 19 area institutions in addition to the world-class resources available through the Boston College Library System.
STUDENT LIFE & CAMPUS RESOURCES

Boston College is located on the edge of one of the world’s most vibrant cities. Just six miles from downtown Boston—an exciting and dynamic place to live and learn—Boston College is an easy car or “T” ride away from a booming center for trade, finance, research and education.

Home to some of New England’s most prestigious cultural landmarks, including the Museum of Fine Arts, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston Symphony Hall and the Freedom Trail, Boston provides a rich environment for those passionate about art, music and history. For sports fans, Boston hosts a number of the country’s greatest sports teams: the Celtics, Patriots, Bruins and, of course, Fenway Park’s beloved Red Sox. Found within a short drive from Boston are some of New England’s best recreational sites, from the excellent skiing in New Hampshire to the pristine beaches of Cape Cod.

Boston also offers a wide range of family friendly attractions, including the Children’s Museum, New England Aquarium, Franklin Park Zoo and the Museum of Science. There are roughly 50 universities located in the Boston area, and the large student population adds to the city’s intellectually rich and diverse community. Events, lectures and reading groups hosted by world-renowned scholars abound on area campuses, providing abundant opportunities to meet and network with other graduate students and faculty throughout the Boston area.

The University

Boston College is a Jesuit university with 14,250 students, 805 full-time faculty and more than 175,000 active alumni. Since its founding in 1863, the University has known extraordinary growth and change. From its beginnings as a small Jesuit college intended to provide higher education for Boston’s largely immigrant Catholic population, Boston College has grown into a national institution of higher learning that is consistently ranked among the top universities in the nation: Boston College is ranked 31st among national universities by U.S. News & World Report.

Today, Boston College attracts scholars from all 50 states and over 80 countries, and confers more than 4,000 degrees annually in more than 50 fields through its eight schools and colleges. Its faculty members are committed to both teaching and research and have set new marks for research grants in each of the last 10 years. The University is committed to academic excellence. As part of its most recent strategic plan, Boston College is in the process of adding 100 new faculty positions, expanding faculty and graduate research, increasing student financial aid and widening opportunities in key undergraduate and graduate programs.

The University is comprised of the following colleges and schools: Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences, Carroll School of Management, Connell School of Nursing, Lynch School of Education, Woods College of Advancing Studies, Boston College Law School, Graduate School of Social Work and School of Theology and Ministry.

General Resources

HOUSING

While on-campus housing is not available for graduate students, most choose to live in nearby apartments. The Office of Residential Life maintains an extensive database with available rental listings, roommates and helpful local real estate agents. The best time to look for fall semester housing is June through the end of August. For spring semester housing, the best time to look is late November through the beginning of the second semester. Additionally, some graduate students may live on campus as resident assistants. Interested students should contact the Office of Residential Life.
JOHN COURTNEY MURRAY, S.J., GRADUATE STUDENT CENTER

One of only a handful of graduate student centers around the country, the Murray Graduate Student Center is dedicated to the support and enrichment of graduate student life at Boston College. Its primary purpose is to build a sense of community among the entire graduate student population and cultivate a sense of belonging to the University as a whole. Its amenities include study rooms, a computer lab, two smart televisions, kitchen, deck and patio space, complimentary coffee and tea, and more. Throughout the year, the center hosts programs organized by the Office of Graduate Student Life and graduate student groups. The Murray Graduate Student Center also maintains an active job board (available electronically), listing academic and non-academic opportunities for employment both on and off campus.

MCMULLEN MUSEUM OF ART

Serving as a dynamic educational resource for the national and international community, the McMullen Museum of Art showcases interdisciplinary exhibitions that ask innovative questions and break new ground in the display and scholarship of the works on view. The McMullen regularly offers exhibition-related programs, including musical and theatrical performances, films, gallery talks, symposia, lectures, readings and receptions that draw students, faculty, alumni and friends together for stimulating dialogue. Located on the main campus, the McMullen Museum is free to all visitors.

CONNORS FAMILY LEARNING CENTER

Working closely with the Graduate School, the Connors Family Learning Center sponsors seminars, workshops and discussions for graduate teaching assistants and teaching fellows on strategies for improving teaching effectiveness and student learning. Each fall, the Learning Center and the Graduate School hold a one-and-a-half day “Fall Teaching Orientation” workshop designed to help students prepare for teaching. The center also hosts ongoing seminars on college teaching, higher learning and academic life; assists graduate students in developing teaching portfolios; and provides class visits and teaching consultations, upon request. Through these and other activities, the Connors Family Learning Center plays an important role in enhancing the quality of academic life at Boston College.

FLYNN RECREATION COMPLEX

The 144,000-square-foot Flynn Recreation Complex houses a running track; tennis, basketball, volleyball, squash and racquetball courts; an aquatics center with pool and dive well; saunas and more. Its 10,000-square-foot Fitness Center offers more than 100 pieces of cardio equipment, a full complement of strength training equipment and free weights, an air-conditioned spin studio and three air-conditioned group fitness studios. During the academic year, BC Rec holds more than 80 group fitness classes per week in a variety of disciplines, including Zumba, spin, yoga, strength training, Pilates and more.

BOSTON COLLEGE CAREER CENTER

The Boston College Career Center works with graduate students at each step of their career development. Services include self-assessment, career counseling, various career development workshops, resume and cover letter critiques, and practice interviews. In addition to extensive workshop offerings, Career Center staff members are available throughout the year for one-on-one advising about any aspect of the career path. The Career Resource Library offers a wealth of resources, including books, periodicals and online databases.
Admission Requirements

Applicants to the Ph.D. program should have completed the M.Div. or equivalent degree; a master’s degree in religion, theology or philosophy; or a bachelor’s program with an exceptionally strong background in religion, theology and/or philosophy.

The deadline for receipt of applications for fall admission is January 2 for the Ph.D. program and February 1 for the joint Philosophy/Theology M.A. program. Please visit bc.edu/gsas for detailed information on how to apply.

Application requirements include:

- **Application Form:** Submitted online, via the GSAS website.
- **Application Fee:** $75, non-refundable.
- **Abstract of Courses Form:** A concise overview of background and related courses completed in an intended field or proposed area of study.
- **Official Transcripts:** Demonstrating coursework completed/degree conferral from all post-secondary institutions attended.
- **GRE General Test:** Official score report required for all applicants.
- **Three Letters of Recommendation:** From professors or supervisors. It is highly advisable that at least one letter be from an academic source.
- **Statement of Purpose:** A brief (approx. 3 page) discussion of an applicant’s interest in the program and academic goals.
- **Writing Sample:** A sample of an applicant’s best work (usually a course paper or equivalent of no more than 25 pages) related to their proposed field of study.
- **Curriculum Vitae:** A list of an applicant’s academic and work experience.
- **Proof of English Proficiency:** Official TOEFL/IELTS reports accepted.

Financial Assistance

**DEPARTMENT FUNDING**

The Department of Theology offers full-tuition scholarships and stipends (currently more than $21,000 per year) for five years to all doctoral students in good standing. Admitted students may also be chosen to compete for Presidential Fellowships that add $5,000 per year to the stipend. Students (usually in the areas of Comparative Theology or Bible) who focus research on an aspect of Judaism may also be awarded a Jewish Studies Fellowship, supplementing the stipend by $4,000 per year.

**FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID**

Graduate students can apply for federal financial aid using the FAFSA. The loans that may be available to graduate students are the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan and Perkins Loan, based on eligibility. If additional funds are needed, students may apply for a Grad Plus Loan. For more information, see the Graduate Financial Aid website at bc.edu/gradaid or contact the Graduate Financial Aid Office at 617-552-3300 or 800-294-0294.