

# Francis E. Feingold

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**AOS** Medieval metaphysics and ethics (especially in Aquinas)

**AOC** Ancient philosophy, modern philosophy, epistemology, political philosophy, free will, introductory logic

## **Education** **Ph.D. in Philosophy**

August 2012–January 2018, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Dissertation: “Divine Friendship–Love and Divine Impassibility: A Thomistic Response to Process Thought.”

Passed the dissertation defense with distinction on Nov. 17, 2017.

*Advisor:* Dr. Tobias Hoffmann. *Readers:* Dr. Gregory T. Doolan and Dr. Timothy Noone.

## **M.A. in Philosophy**

August 2009–May 2012, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Master’s thesis: “Is to Love the Whole More Than to Love Its Members? The Primacy of the Inclination to Love the Common Good in Aquinas.”

Passed the M.A. oral comprehensive examination *summa cum laude*.

*Advisor:* Dr. Tobias Hoffmann. *Reader:* Dr. Kevin White.

## **B.A. summa cum laude in Philosophy (with minor in Sacred Music)**

August 2005–May 2009, Christendom College, Front Royal, Va.

## **Employment** **Assistant Professor and Chair of Philosophy**

July 2018–present, St. Patrick’s Seminary and University, Menlo Park, Calif.

Teaching philosophy to Roman Catholic seminarians in the Pre-Theology program: Ancient Philosophy, Medieval Philosophy, Modern Philosophy, Contemporary Philosophy, Philosophical Anthropology, Metaphysics, and Philosophy of God. — Other responsibilities, as of Spring 2020, include serving as department chair (coordinating the department’s course assignments and contributions to the strategic plan); as admissions director; as a student formation advisor; and on the library committee.

## **Visiting Instructor of Philosophy**

July 2016–June 2018, Ave Maria University, Ave Maria, Fla.

Teaching in the university’s three core philosophy courses: Nature and Person, Ethics, and Metaphysics.

## **Part-time Lecturer in Philosophy**

August 2015–December 2015, Mount St. Mary’s University, Emmitsburg, Md.

Teaching modern philosophy (Bacon, Galileo, Descartes, Pascal, Hobbes, Mill, Nietzsche, Ayer, and Ratzinger) to two sections of sophomores over the course of the fall semester.

## **Teaching Fellow in Philosophy**

August 2012–May 2015, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Full responsibility for teaching classical philosophy (Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, and Aquinas) and modern philosophy (Descartes, Locke, Hume, Kant, and Nietzsche) to two sections in CUA’s FYE program.

**Publications** “Jacques Maritain and the ‘Wounding of God’.” Forthcoming in the American Maritain Association’s 29th volume, edited by James Keating, to be published by The Catholic University of America Press (2020).

“Aquinas on Angelic Knowledge of the Actual Existence of Contingent Things.” Forthcoming in *Summa metaphysicae ad mentem sancti Thomae: In Honor of Msgr. John F. Wippel*, edited by Therese Cory and Gregory Doolan, to be published by The Catholic University of America Press.

“Is the Institution of Private Property Part of the Natural Law? *Ius gentium* and *ius naturale* in Aquinas’s Account of the Right to ‘Steal’ When in Urgent Need.” Forthcoming in *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 92 (2018).

“Principium vs. Principiatum: The Transcendence of Love in von Hildebrand and Aquinas.” *Quaestiones Disputatae* 3 (2013): 56–68.

**Awards** Received the 2018 Founders’ Award from the Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy for a paper entitled “Aquinas’s Discussion of Aristotle’s Claim That Knowing Does Not Alter the Knower.” The paper was delivered at the 54<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Mich. (May 9–12, 2019), sponsored by the SMRP.

**Conference  
Papers**

“*Complacentia* and *velle*: The Passivity of the Will in Aquinas’s Psychology.” Paper accepted to be delivered at the Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy’s Inaugural Conference, at Notre Dame University in Notre Dame, Ind. (Sept. 30–Oct. 2, 2020). [Rescheduled for Oct. 4–6, 2021.]

“How Can Aquinas’s Angels Know the Actual Existence of Contingent Things?” Paper accepted to be delivered at the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, at St. Louis University in St. Louis, Mo. (June 15–17, 2020). [Rescheduled for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium, to be held on June 21–23, 2021.]

“Personalism and the Common Good.” Delivered at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Maritain Association entitled “Whose Thomism? Which Tradition?” hosted by Franciscan University and Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius, in Pittsburgh, Pa. (March 5–7, 2020).

“Being-Moved’: The Passivity of Spiritual Affections in von Hildebrand and Aquinas.” Invited paper delivered at a colloquium on Dietrich von Hildebrand’s emotion theory, held at the University of Dallas in Dallas, Tex. (Feb. 27–29, 2020).

“Is the Concept a Quality? An Objection to the ‘Formal Concept’/‘Objective Concept’ Distinction.” Delivered at the 2019 Annual ACPA Meeting entitled “A Perennial Philosophy of Nature,” hosted by the University of St. Thomas, in Minneapolis, Minn. (Nov. 21–24, 2019), at a session sponsored by the Society for Medieval and Renaissance Thomism.

“Metaphysical Bridges: A Teleological Response to the Twinning Argument for Delayed Hominization.” Delivered at the 2019 Annual ACPA Meeting entitled “A Perennial Philosophy of Nature,” hosted by the University of St. Thomas, in Minneapolis, Minn. (Nov. 21–24, 2019), at a session sponsored by the ACPA.

“Why Can’t Angels See Our Future? Aquinas’s View of the Relation Between Continuous and Discrete Time.” Delivered at the 4<sup>th</sup> Symposium Thomisticum entitled “Aquinas Philosopher Theologian,” at the Pontifical Irish College in Rome, Italy (July 4–6, 2019).

“Can We Want Courage and Candy at the Same Instant? Aquinas on the Possibility of Simultaneous Will-Acts.” Delivered at the 2019 Symposium for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, at St. Louis University in St. Louis, Mo. (June 17–19, 2019).

“Jacques Maritain and the ‘Wounding of God.’” Delivered at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Maritain Association, at DeSales University in Center Valley, Pa., March 28–30, 2019.

“Is the Institution of Private Property Part of the Natural Law? *Ius gentium* and *ius naturale* in Aquinas’s Account of the Right to ‘Steal’ When in Urgent Need.” Delivered at the 2018 Annual ACPA Meeting entitled “Philosophy, Catholicism, and Public Life,” hosted by the University of San Diego, in San Diego, Calif., November 8–11, 2018.

“Is the Act of Knowing a Quality? Aquinas’s Discussion of Aristotle’s Claim that Knowing Does Not Alter the Knower.” Delivered at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Symposium Thomisticum entitled “Aquinas and the Greeks,” at the Academy of Athens in Athens, Greece, June 7–9, 2018.

“Is There Imperfection in Grieving For Another’s Sin?” Delivered at the 53<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Mich., May 10–13, 2018.

“Do Causal Actions Inhere in Their Agent? Aquinas’s Reception of Aristotle’s ‘*actio est in passo*’ Doctrine.” Delivered at the 52<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Mich., May 11–14, 2017.

“Love of Variety vs. Love of Unity: A Cautious Defense of Plato’s Critique of μίμησις.” Delivered at a graduate student conference entitled “Poetry and Philosophy,” at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., Feb. 19–20, 2016.

“Is the Virtue of Legal Justice Identical to Civic Friendship? A Response to Charles De Koninck.” Delivered at the West Coast Meeting of the Society for Aristotelian-Thomistic Studies entitled “Virtue and Friendship,” at Thomas Aquinas College in Santa Paula, Calif., June 18–19, 2015.

“Pure Act and Real Relations: An Investigation of Divine Friendship-Love.” Delivered at the 2<sup>nd</sup> CUA Workshop in Medieval Philosophy, at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., Feb. 7–8, 2014.

“Is Sin Possible apart from Bodily Weakness? An Analysis of the Test Case of Angelic Sin according to Scotus and Aquinas.” Delivered at a graduate student conference entitled “Addiction, Vice, and the Possibility of Moral Reform,” at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., March 17–18, 2011.

“Principium vs. Principiatum: The Transcendence of Love in von Hildebrand and Aquinas.” Delivered as one of five prize-winning papers (all expenses paid) at a conference entitled “The Christian Personalism of Dietrich von Hildebrand: Exploring His Philosophy of Love,” at the Università Pontificia della Santa Croce in Rome, May 27–29, 2010.

- Book reviews** Accepted an invitation to review Dietrich von Hildebrand's *Graven Images: Substitutes for True Morality* for *International Philosophical Quarterly*. Forthcoming in Spring 2020.
- Accepted an invitation to review Dietrich von Hildebrand's *Morality and Situation Ethics* for *The Review of Metaphysics*. Forthcoming in Spring 2020.
- Encyclopedia entries** "Philosophy, Technical Terms in: Mental Reductionism"; "Philosophy, Technical Terms in: Probability"; "Philosophy, Technical Terms in: Rationality"; "Philosophy, Technical Terms in: Sense and Reference." In *New Catholic Encyclopedia Supplement 2012–2013: Ethics and Philosophy*, vol. 3, edited by Robert L. Fastiggi, pp. 1185a–b, 1193b–94a, 1197a–b, and 1199b–1200a. Detroit: Gale Cengage Learning, 2013.
- Work in progress** "The City or the Citizen: A Thomistic Personalist Account of the Primacy of the Common Good"  
 "Inhering Without Changing: The Weak Inherence of Causal Actions in Aquinas"  
 "Divine Simplicity and Divine Action: Must God Be Identical to the Act of Creating?"  
 "Is the Act of Knowing a Quality? The Peculiar Ontological Status of Immanent Actions"  
 "Passivity and Ecstasy: The Structure of Love in the Will according to Aquinas"  
 "Reasons of the Heart: The 'Evidence' of Love in Pascal's *Pensées*"
- Languages** Spanish & Italian (fluent)  
 Latin & French (read/write/speak)  
 Greek & German (read)
- Graduate courses taken** **Metaphysics**  
 The Origins of the Platonic Tradition (John Rist)  
 Aristotle's *Metaphysics* (Robert Sokolowski)  
 The Metaphysics of John Duns Scotus (Timothy Noone)  
 Descartes's *Meditations* (John McCarthy)  
 Substantial Unity (Michael Gorman)  
 Universal and Particulars in Analytic Metaphysics (Michael Gorman)
- Ethics**  
 Virtue and Human Action (Robert Sokolowski)  
 Aquinas: The Goodness and Malice of Human Actions (Tobias Hoffmann)  
 Thomas Aquinas on Free Choice (Tobias Hoffmann)  
 The Thought of William of Ockham (Timothy Noone)  
 Functions of Philosophy in Theology (Michael Gorman)  
 The Ethics of Belief (James Brent)  
 Humans, Persons, and Embryos: The Philosophy of the Abortion Debate (Angela Knobel)
- Philosophy of Knowledge**  
 Aristotle's *Posterior Analytics* (Jean De Groot)  
 Aristotle's *De anima* (Kurt Pritzl)  
 Divine Illumination (Timothy Noone)  
 Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* (Michael Rohlf)  
 German Idealism (Michael Rohlf)  
 Husserl's *Logical Investigations* (Robert Sokolowski)  
 The Agent of Truth (Robert Sokolowski)

**Professional  
References**

**Dr. Tobias Hoffmann**

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