

April 2024

MATTHEW SHEA

Department of Philosophy
Franciscan University of Steubenville

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EDUCATION

B.A., Honors Philosophy, Boston College (2005–2009), *summa cum laude*
Ph.D., Philosophy, Saint Louis University (2013–2018)
Postdoctoral Fellowship, Clinical Ethics, University of California, Los Angeles (2018–2020)

Areas of Specialization: Moral Philosophy, Bioethics
Areas of Competence: Epistemology, Philosophy of Religion

Dissertation: *Made for Each Other: A Second-Person Approach to Well-Being and Natural Law-Virtue Ethics*

Committee: Eleonore Stump (advisor), Jeffrey Bishop, Daniel Haybron, Mark Murphy

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Franciscan University of Steubenville (2022–present)

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Scranton (2020–2022)

Part-Time Faculty, Loyola Marymount University, Bioethics Institute (2020)

Clinical Ethics Fellow, UCLA Health Ethics Center (2018–2020)

Instructor, Saint Louis University, Philosophy Department (2017–2018)

Research Assistant to Professor Eleonore Stump, Saint Louis University (2014–2017)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

God and Happiness. Cambridge University Press (forthcoming).

Articles and Book Chapters

- “Value Incommensurability in Natural Law Ethics: A Clarification and Critique.” *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 97:3 (2023): 361–386.
- “The Natural Law Ethics of *Star Wars*” (with Joel Archer and Daniel Banning). In *Star Wars and Philosophy Strikes Back*. Edited by Jason Eberl and Kevin Decker, 20–29. Part of the Blackwell Philosophy and Pop Culture Series. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 2023.
- “Value Comparability in Natural Law Ethics: A Defense.” *Journal of Value Inquiry* (2022 online: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10790-022-09895-5>).
- “A Thomistic Solution to the Deep Problem for Perfectionism” (with James Kintz). *Utilitas* 34 (2022): 461–477.
- “The Ethics of Choosing a Surrogate Decision Maker When Equal-Priority Surrogates Disagree.” *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics* 11:1 (2021): 121–131.
- “Principlism’s Balancing Act: Why the Principles of Biomedical Ethics Need a Theory of the Good.” *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 45:4-5 (2020): 441–470.
- “Forty Years of the Four Principles: Enduring Themes from Beauchamp and Childress.” *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 45:4-5 (2020): 387–395.
- “The Quality of Life is Not Strained: Disability, Human Nature, Well-Being, and Relationships.” *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal* 29:4 (2019): 333–366.
- “Human Nature and Moral Status in Bioethics.” *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 43 (2018): 115–131.
- “Aquinas on God-Sanctioned Stealing.” *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 92:2 (2018): 277–293.
- “God, Evil, and Occasionalism” (with C.P. Ragland). *Religious Studies* 54 (2018): 265–283.
- “A Natural Fit: Natural Law Theory, Virtue Epistemology, and the Value of Knowledge.” *Journal of Philosophical Research* 42 (2017): 45–63.
- “Thomistic Eudaimonism, Virtue, and Well-Being.” *Southwest Philosophy Review* 33:1 (2017): 173–185.

Edited Volumes

- Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Principles of Biomedical Ethics: Essays in Honor of Tom Beauchamp and James Childress*. Editor with Jeffrey P. Bishop. Special double-issue of *The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 45:4-5 (2020).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Franciscan University, Philosophy Department, *Primary Instructor*

- Philosophy of the Human Person (Fall 2022, Spring 2023)
- Metaphysics (Spring 2024)
- Foundations of Ethics (Fall 2022, Fall 2023)
- Epistemology (upper level) (Spring 2023)
- Contemporary Ethics (graduate level) (Fall 2023)
- The Value of Life (graduate level) (Spring 2024)
- Natural Law Ethics (graduate level directed study) (Spring 2023)

University of Scranton, Philosophy Department, *Primary Instructor*

- Introduction to Philosophy (Fall 2021)
- Ethics (Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022)
- Medical Ethics (upper level) (Fall 2020, Fall 2021)
- Epistemology (upper level) (Spring 2021)
- Advanced Topics in Biomedical Ethics: The Value of Life (upper level) (Spring 2022)
- Disability Bioethics (honors tutorial) (Spring 2021)

Loyola Marymount University, Masters of Bioethics Program, *Primary Instructor*

- Bioethics at the End of Life (graduate level) (Spring 2020)

UCLA, Fielding School of Public Health, *Primary Instructor*

- Happiness: What Is It and How Should We Pursue It? (with Robert Kim-Farley, MD, MPH) (Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2022)

UCLA, David Geffen School of Medicine, *Lecturer*

- Ethics Core Curriculum (Fall 2019)

UCLA Health System, *Lecturer*

- Pediatric Neurology Fellowship Program: Ethics Core Curriculum (Spring 2020)
- Geriatrics Residency Program: Decision-Making Capacity (Spring 2019–Spring 2020)
- Rehabilitation Medicine Program: Health Care Ethics (Fall 2019–Spring 2020)
- Pediatrics Fellowship Program: Ethics Core Curriculum (Fall 2019)
- Ethics Journal Club (Spring 2019–Spring 2020)

Saint Louis University, Philosophy Department, *Primary Instructor*

- Introduction to Philosophy (Summer 2017)
- Ethics (Fall 2017)
- Medical Ethics (upper level) (Spring 2018)

Saint Sebastian's School, *Primary Instructor*

- Western Philosophy (12th grade) (2010–2013)
- Christian Ethics (11th grade) (2010–2013)
- Introduction to Catholicism (7th grade) (2010–2013)

Boston College, Philosophy Department, *Teaching Assistant*

- Perspectives on Western Culture (Professor Brian Braman) (Fall 2008, Spring 2009)

CLINICAL ETHICS EXPERIENCE

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine (2022–present)

- Faculty: Consortium Ethics Program

Geisinger Health System (2020–2022)

- Ethics Committee Member: Geisinger Community Medical Center (Scranton, PA)

UCLA Health System (2018–2020)

- Clinical Ethics Consultant: 387 ethics case consults
- Ethics Committee Member: Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, UCLA Santa Monica Medical Center, Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital (Los Angeles, CA)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

“The Value of Life: A Natural Law Approach.” Invited lecture for the Friday Academic Lecture Series, hosted by the Center for Bioethics at Franciscan University. Steubenville, OH. 2024.

“Bioethics at the End of Life.” Invited lecture for the annual Bioethics Boot Camp: An Intensive Introduction to Healthcare Ethics, hosted by the Consortium Ethics Program at the University of Pittsburgh. Robert Morris University, PA. 2024.

“Disability, Dignity, and Well-Being.” Invited lecture for the Thomistic Institute at Baylor University. Waco, TX. 2024.

“Can We Be Happy Without God?” Invited lecture for the Thomistic Institute at Clemson University. Clemson, SC. 2024.

“A Thomistic Axiology and Metaphysics of Human Dignity.” American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting. Houston, TX. 2023.

“Disability and Quality of Life.” Invited lecture for Doctor of Nursing Practice students at UCLA School of Nursing. Los Angeles, CA. 2023.

“Human Flourishing and Disability: A Thomistic Approach.” Invited lecture for the Thomistic Institute at Saint Vincent College. Latrobe, PA. 2023.

“The Values of Life at the End of Life.” Invited plenary lecture at the National Nursing Ethics Conference. Virtual Conference. 2023.

- “Respect for Persons: Autonomy and Informed Consent, Privacy and Confidentiality.” Invited lecture for the annual Bioethics Boot Camp: An Intensive Introduction to Healthcare Ethics, hosted by the Consortium Ethics Program at the University of Pittsburgh. Robert Morris University, PA. 2023.
- “Cooperation with Evil and Conscientious Objection.” Invited lecture for nursing students at Franciscan University. Steubenville, OH. 2023.
- “A Thomistic Solution to the Deep Problem for Perfectionism” (with James Kintz). American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting. Denver, CO. 2023.
- “Natural Law Ethics and the Value of the Human Person.” American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting. New Orleans, LA. 2022.
- “Disability and Quality of Life.” Invited lecture for Doctor of Nursing Practice students at UCLA School of Nursing. Los Angeles, CA. 2022.
- “Catholic Bioethics: *Donum Vitae* and *Dignitas Personae*.” Invited lecture for undergraduate students at Franciscan University. Steubenville, OH. 2022.
- “The Self is Made for the Other: A Second-Personal Account of Human Nature.” National Taiwan University and University of Scranton Joint International Conference. Scranton, PA. 2022.
- “Racial Justice in Biomedical Ethics” (with Makida Seward). Invited presentation for the Teach-In for Racial Justice, sponsored by the Ellacuría Initiative at the University of Scranton. Scranton, PA. 2022.
- “Value Incommensurability and Comparability in Natural Law Ethics.” American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting. Chicago, IL. 2022.
- “Quality of Life, Disability, and Vulnerability.” Invited lecture for Doctor of Nursing Practice students at UCLA School of Nursing. Los Angeles, CA. 2021.
- “A Crash Course in Medical Ethics.” Invited presentation for the Health Professions Organization student club at the University of Scranton. Scranton, PA. 2021.
- “A Relationship-Centered Account of the Good Life.” Invited presentation for the Philosophy Society student club at the University of Scranton. Scranton, PA. 2021.
- “What is the Appropriate Ethical Standard for End-of-Life Decisions for Unrepresented Patients?” Invited lecture for the Ethics Education Series at Beaumont Health System. Royal Oak, MI. 2021.

- “The Human Person and Human Flourishing: Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, and Contemporary Psychology.” American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting. Saint Louis, MO. 2021.
- “The Primacy of Relationships for Well-Being.” Society of Christian Philosophers Midwest Regional Meeting. Virtual Conference. 2021.
- “The Primacy of Relationships for Well-Being.” American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting. Virtual Conference. 2021.
- “The ‘Ethics’ of Clinical Ethics.” Association for Practical and Professional Ethics Conference. Virtual Conference. 2021.
- “Quality of Life, Disability, Vulnerability, and the Virtuous Nurse.” Invited lecture for Doctor of Nursing Practice students at UCLA School of Nursing. Los Angeles, CA. 2020.
- “Justice for the Most Vulnerable: The Appropriate Ethical Standard for Life-and-Death Decisions for Unrepresented Patients.” American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference. 2020.
- “The Sliding Scale of Decision-Making Capacity: Its Meaning and Moral Significance.” American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference. 2020.
- “Disability, Human Flourishing, and Second-Person Relationships” (with Audra Goodnight). 3rd Biennial Philosophy of Disability Conference. UNC, Asheville. Asheville, NC. 2020.
- “Well-Being and Personal Relationships in Medical Ethics and Clinical Health Care.” Carol Carfang Nursing and Healthcare Ethics Conference. Hosted by Duquesne University. Clearwater Beach, FL. 2020.
- “Quality of Life, Disability, and Vulnerability.” Invited lecture for Doctor of Nursing Practice students at UCLA School of Nursing. Los Angeles, CA. 2019.
- “Well-Being and Personal Relationships in Medical Ethics and Clinical Health Care.” International Congress on Law and Mental Health. Rome, Italy. 2019.
- Poster Presentation on “Personal Presence and Positive Relationships in Nursing Ethics.” National Nursing Ethics Conference. UCLA. Los Angeles, CA. 2019.
- “Disabled Human Flourishing.” American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting. Denver, CO. 2019.
- “A Relationship-Centered Account of The Good Life.” American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting. San Diego, CA. 2018.

“Natural Goodness is Good for You: Well-Being and the Rational Authority of Human Nature.” American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting. Savannah, GA. 2018.

“Natural Goodness is Good for You: Well-Being and the Rational Authority of Human Nature.” Eudaimonia Conference. Hosted by the Eudaimonia Institute at Wake Forest University. Winston-Salem, NC. 2017.

“Intuitionism, Conflicts of Duties, and Practical Wisdom.” Midsouth Philosophy Conference. Rhodes College. Memphis, TN. 2018.

“Intuitionism, Conflicts of Duties, and Practical Wisdom.” Felician Ethics Conference. Hosted by the Felician Institute for Ethics and Public Affairs at Felician University. Rutherford, NJ. 2017.

“Religious Experience and Alternative Possibilities Skepticism.” Evangelical Philosophical Society Annual Meeting. Providence, RI. 2017.

“Religious Experience and Alternative Possibilities Skepticism.” Kansas Philosophical Society Meeting. University of Kansas. Lawrence, KS. 2017.

“Divine Concurrence and Evil.” Special Divine Action Symposium at the American Academy of Religion Meeting. Part of the Special Divine Action Project, hosted by the Ian Ramsey Centre for Science and Religion at the University of Oxford. San Antonio, TX. 2016.

“Divine Concurrence and Evil.” Society of Christian Philosophers Midwest Regional Meeting. Evangel University. Springfield, MO. 2016.

“Thomistic Eudaimonism.” Southwestern Philosophical Society Meeting. Corpus Christi, TX. 2016.

“Thomistic Eudaimonism.” Society of Christian Philosophers Eastern Regional Meeting. Rutgers University. New Brunswick, NJ. 2016.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND WORKSHOPS

“Ethical Issues Regarding Physician-Assisted Suicide.” Invited presentation at the Care for the Dying Patient Workshop, hosted by the Consortium Ethics Program at the University of Pittsburgh. LaRoche University, PA. 2024.

Panel discussion on “The Dependency, Relationality, and Dignity of the Human Person,” with James Kintz, Jeffrey Bishop, and Jason Eberl. American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting. Houston, TX. 2023.

“Natural Law Ethics, The Value of Life, and the Ethics of Killing.” Invited paper presentation at the Abortion Workshop at Wake Forest University. Winston-Salem, NC. 2023.

“Relationship-Centered Natural Law Ethics.” Paper presentation at the Natural Law Workshop, hosted by the Wolf-Kuhn Ethics Institute at Saint Francis University. Loretto, PA. 2023.

Panel discussion on “The Nature and Value of the Human Person,” with James Kintz and Christopher Hauser. American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting. New Orleans, LA. 2022.

Panel discussion on “Human Nature, Love, and Agency,” with James Kintz and Daniel De Haan. American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting. Saint Louis, MO. 2021.

Panel discussion on “Being Competent about Capacity: Ethics Expertise and Capacity Evaluation,” with James Hynds, Joseph Raho, and Allison McCarthy. American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Meeting. Virtual Conference. 2020.

Panel discussion on “Thomistic Flourishing: A Second-Person Approach,” with James Kintz and Andrew Pinsent. American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting. San Diego, CA. 2018.

“The Quality of Life is Not Strained: Disability, Human Nature, and Quality of Life.” American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Annual Meeting, Early Career Advisor Program Workshop. Anaheim, CA. 2018.

Arete Initiative Medical Ethics Summer Seminar. Hosted by the Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University. Durham, NC. 2018.

Panel discussion on “The Question of Ethics in Politics,” with Ruth Groff, Wynne Moskop, and Richard Quirk. Sponsored by the Political Science Club at Saint Louis University. Saint Louis, MO. 2017.

PRESENTED COMMENTS

Invited response to David McPherson’s “Spiritual Alienation: What Is It? How Can It Be Overcome?” Annual Father Joseph Koterski, SJ Lecture, sponsored by Philosophers in Jesuit Education. American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting. New Orleans, LA. 2022.

Comments on Jeu-Jenq Yuann’s “An Interpretation of Confucian *Ren* Through A Case Study of the Divergent Attitudes in the Preventative Measures of Covid-19 Pandemic in China and the US.” Joint Symposium of National Taiwan University and University of Scranton. Scranton, PA. 2022. Published in *NTU Philosophical Review* 64 (2022): 393–396.

Invited response to Therese Lysaught’s “The Spirit of Revolutionary Change: Catholic Social Thought and the Transformation of Catholic Bioethics.” Annual Bessette Lecture on Medical Ethics, sponsored by the McGowan Center for Ethics and Social Responsibility at King’s College, Wilkes-Barre, PA. 2021.

Comments on J. Reese Faust's "Narrative and Affect: A Moral Psychology of Collective Responsibility." Midsouth Philosophy Conference. Rhodes College. Memphis, TN. 2018.

Comments on James Cain's "Free Will, Resiliency, and the Flip-Flopping Argument." Central States Philosophical Association Meeting. Washington University. St. Louis, MO. 2017.

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Faculty Excellence Award in Scholarship, Franciscan University of Steubenville (2023)

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Ethics, UCLA Health Ethics Center (2018–2020)

Distinguished Dissertation Award Honorable Mention, Saint Louis University College of Arts and Sciences (2019)

Collins Award for Graduate Student Excellence, Saint Louis University Philosophy Department (2017)

Saint Louis University Teaching Assistantship (2017–2018)

Saint Louis University Research Assistantship (2013–2017)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Faculty member for the Consortium Ethics Program at the University of Pittsburgh (2022–present)

Speaker for the Thomistic Institute campus lecture series (2022–present)

Editorial Advisory Board member for *The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* (2021–present)

Reviewer for:

Journal of Medicine and Philosophy (2018–2024, 15x)

Philosophical Studies (2022–2023, 2x)

Medicine and Religion Conference (2018–2021, 4x)

Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics (2022)

Cambridge University Press Cambridge Elements series (2021)

Religious Studies (2020, 2x)

Co-Chair of Philosophy of Medicine Affinity Group, American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (2020–2022)

Organizer of Satellite Session on “The Nature and Value of the Human Person,” panel discussion with James Kintz and Christopher Hauser. American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting. New Orleans, LA. (2022)

Co-Founder and Co-Organizer of the annual lecture series “The Humanities and Healthcare: Medicine as a Moral and Spiritual Enterprise,” sponsored by the Slattery Center for Humanities at the University of Scranton. Featuring keynote speaker Katherine Brown-Saltzman. (2021)

Committee Member, MindWell Division of the Semel Healthy Campus Initiative at UCLA (2018–2020)

Organizer of Satellite Session on “Thomistic Flourishing: A Second-Person Approach,” panel discussion with James Kintz and Andrew Pinsent. American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting. San Diego, CA. (2018)

Graduate Affiliate with the Happiness and Well-Being Project at Saint Louis University (directed by Daniel Haybron) (2017–2018)

Webmaster for Philosophers in Jesuit Education (2014–2017)

Co-Organizer of Saint Louis University Philosophy Graduate Student Conference on Free Will and Moral Responsibility. Keynote speakers John Heil and Pamela Hieronymi. St. Louis, MO. (2016)

Vice-President of Saint Louis University Philosophy Graduate Student Association (2015–2016)

Session Chair at the Saint Louis University Philosophy Graduate Student Conference (2015)

Assistant with the Intellectual Humility Project at Saint Louis University (directed by Eleonore Stump and John Greco) (2014–2015)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Philosophical Association
American Catholic Philosophical Association
Society of Christian Philosophers
Philosophers in Jesuit Education
American Society for Bioethics and Humanities