

CURRICULUM VITAE
Fr. Thomas Vincent Berg, LC, Ph.D.
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Degrees

- Ph.D., (Philosophy) Pontifical Athenaeum *Regina Apostolorum*, May 1999.
Dissertation: *The Value Ontology of Dietrich von Hildebrand: Toward a Reform of the Contemporary Notion of Value*
Director: Fr Michael Ryan, LC, Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy
- M.A. in Liberal Studies, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT, May, 1997.
Concentration in Political Science
Thesis: *Human Nature and the American Democratic Experiment*
Director: Dr Giulio Gallarotti, Dept of Government
- Ph.L, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, June 1996.
Concentration in Systematic Philosophy
Thesis: *Human Goods and the Incommensurability Thesis in the Natural Law Theory of John Finnis*
Director: Fr Kevin Flannery, SJ
- Ph. B., Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, June 1994.
- B.A., The University of the State of New York, June 1993.
Completed all credits for the major in Spanish Literature at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1983-1986; "Marquette in Madrid" study program at the Universidad Complutense, Madrid, Spain 1985-86

Areas of Specialization: Moral philosophy; natural law theory; general medical ethics; beginning-of-life issues in bioethics; stem-cell research and 'alternative sources' approaches.

Areas of Research: Alternative sources of pluripotent stem cells; the ontological and moral status of the human embryo; the definition of 'human organism'

Areas of Competence: The Grisez-Finnis school of natural law theory; the history of moral thought; Aristotle; Aquinas; Descartes; Von Hildebrand; Searle; philosophy of mind; value philosophy; phenomenology; philosophical anthropology; fundamental issues in bioethics.

Languages

Modern: Spanish (bilingual); Italian (proficient);
Classical: Latin (proficient); Greek (moderate).

Teaching Experience

1997- present. Professor of Moral Philosophy, Center for Higher Studies of the Legion of Christ, Thornwood New York. Has taught General Ethics, Fall semester, 1998 to present. Has also taught, inter alia, the following courses and seminars:

Seminar in preparation for final oral comprehensive examination
Epistemology
The Ontological and Moral Status of the Human Embryo
Cartesian Dualism: the Philosophical, Cultural and Moral Aftermath
Law, Order and Reason: Questions 90-97 of the *Prima Secundae*
Two Rival Anthropologies: Aristotle and Descartes
Von Hildebrand's *What is Philosophy?*
Introduction to Value Theory
Logic

Fall 2000. Adjunct faculty member of the *Institute for Psychological Sciences*, Crystal City, Va. Taught "The Integration of the Human Person: Christian Perspectives," a 3-credit graduate course exploring the historical roots and cultural consequences of anthropological dualism, and constructing in its wake a holistic framework for an adequate and integrated conception of human personhood.

1991-1993. Assistant professor of classical humanities at the *Legionaries of Christ Center for Humanities* Cheshire, CT. Taught Advanced English Composition, 4th year Latin, Western Civilization, Public Speaking.

1989-1991. Academic Director, *Immaculate Conception Junior High School* Center Harbor, NH. Taught 7th grade English, 9th grade English composition, 1st year Latin.

SCHOLARSHIP

Journal articles

With E. Christian Brugger, "The Catholic Church, Contraception and Abortion: A Reply to Christine Gudorf." *Anthropotes: Journal of the John Paul II Pontifical Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family*, Rome. Forthcoming, summer 2007.

"Human Brain Cells in Animal Brains: Philosophical and Moral Considerations." *National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly*, v. 6, n. 1 (Spring 2006), 89-107.

"Considerations of the Soul in Western Thought: Can Science Dialogue with Aristotle and Aquinas," *Fu Jen Religious Studies*, no. 10 (Winter 2004), 17-49. Reprinted with permission and published in the collection *Scienza e Fede*, n. 6, Ateneo Pontificio Regina Apostolorum (ISBN 88-89174-28-5).

"The Personhood of the Human Embryo." *Homiletic and Pastoral Review*, v. CIII, n. 7 (April 2003), 10-19.

The Value Ontology of Dietrich von Hildebrand: Toward a Reform of the Contemporary Notion of Value (Dissertation extract).

Books & contributions to books

"Value Ethics"; "Virtue Ethics"; "Philosophy of Value." Entries in the Encyclopedia of *Catholic Social Thought, Social Science, and Social Policy*, eds. J. Varacalli, S. Krason & R. Myers (Lanham, Maryland: Scarecrow Press), est. date of publication, July, 2007.

Ed. (with Edward J. Furton), *Human Embryo Adoption: Biotechnology, Marriage and the Right to Life*. National Catholic Bioethics Center. December 2006.

Foreword to Laraine & Art Bennett, *The Temperament God Gave You: The Classic Key to Knowing Yourself, Getting Along with Others, and Growing Closer to the Lord*. Sophia Press, 2005

Invited Lectures

May 13, 2007, New York, NY. Panelist. New York University School of Journalism, Institutes for Journalists, entitled "Cells and Souls."

April 11, 2007, Baltimore, Md. "Embryo-Destructive Research: Are there Alternatives?" Presented to 40 members of Legatus of Baltimore.

October 7, 2006, Thornwood, NY. "The Meaning of Believing: Faith in the thought of Benedict XVI". Presented at the National Men's Convention of the Regnum Christi Movement.

September 27, 2006, Raleigh, NC. "Defending Human Dignity." Presented at the Christian Businessmen's Leadership Roundtable.

September 15-16, 2006, Dayton, TN. "What Makes Man Moral?" Delivered at the Bryan Center for Critical Thought and Practice, fall seminar: "What is Man That Thou art Mindful?"

November 27, 2004, Taipei, Taiwan. "Considerations of the 'Soul' in Western Thought: Can Science Dialogue with Aristotle and Aquinas?" Delivered at The International Conference on Cosmology—Religion and Science in Dialogue, sponsored by Fu Jen Catholic University.

July 7-10, 2003, Los Angeles, CA. 8 lectures on "Issues in Bioethics" to faculty and staff of the Escuela de la Fe.

June 14, 2003, Thornwood, NY. "Spiritual Discernment—Part II" Lecture delivered via video-conferencing to lay spiritual guides of the Regnum Christi Movement.

October, 12, 2002, Thornwood, NY "Spiritual Discernment—Part I" Lecture delivered via video-conferencing to lay spiritual guides of the Regnum Christi Movement.

December, 2001, Thornwood, NY. A two-part lecture entitled "An Overview of some current moral issues regarding human embryonic stem cell research" to 90 members of the Legion of Christ as part of a 4-day in-house workshop on bioethics.

April, 1999, Greenville, R.I. Delivered 12 lectures on General Ethics and the Natural Law to 27 members of the *Mater Ecclesiae* Institute.

August, 1998. Dallas, TX. 7 lectures on Christian Anthropology to the 140 participants of the third annual *Integer Course* for headmasters, administrators and educators.

December, 1997. Thornwood, NY. 9 lectures in a series entitled "Considerations of the Natural Law & Basic Principles of Christian Morality" to 40 members of the Legionaries of Christ for a weeklong program of actualization.

Papers Delivered

October 24-25, 2003. Steubenville, OH. "The Value-Language Phenomenon and the Imminent Tasks of Catholic Moral Philosophy." Delivered at the annual national conference of the Society of Catholic Social Scientists.

July 17-19, 2003. Chicago, Ill. "Biotech and the Status of Human Embryo: Is Dialogue Possible?" Delivered at the 10th annual national conference of the Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity (*Remaking Humanity? Biotech Challenges for Healthcare, Science and the Church*).

Workshops administered

April 8-9, 2005, "Medicine and Moral Decision Making" at the Hotel Saskatchewan Radisson Plaza, sponsored by the Catholic Physicians Guild of Regina, Saskatchewan, under the auspices of the Westchester Institute. A 13-hour seminar for healthcare professionals accredited by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for CME units.

November, 2002. A weekend bioethics workshop for the Catholic Physicians Guild of Regina, Saskatchewan, organized and presented under the auspices of the Westchester Institute. Topics: "The Human Person and the Question of Human Dignity"; "Morality, Medical Practice, and the Status of the Human Embryo."

June, 1998. A five-day workshop via teleconferencing to 45 education professionals, members of the "Centro de Asesoría Pedagógica" of the *Anáhuac University* of Mexico. The course was entitled *Antropología filosófica con algunos aspectos de ontología de la Persona*, and consisted of 10 lectures. Thornwood, NY.

Participation in conferences, colloquia, and scholarly gatherings

May 16-18, 2007, Washington D.C. Organized and directed the sixth Westchester Institute Scholars Forum on the topic of defining the human embryo.

October 26-27, 2006, Washington D.C. Organized and directed the fifth Westchester Institute Scholars Forum on the topic of the current state of de facto unions in light of Catholic moral and sacramental theology.

March 2-3, 2006, Washington D.C. Organized and directed the fourth Westchester Institute Scholars Forum on the definitions of embryo and organismic human life.

January 20, 2006, Washington D.C. Participated in the annual Healthcare Right of Conscience Working Group Conference at the Family Research Council. Reported on the progress being made with adult stem cells and "pluripotent stem cells" as alternatives to destroying human embryos.

November 3-4, 2005, Washington D.C. Organized and directed the third Westchester Institute Scholars Forum on the topic of condom use to prevent the spread of HIV. '

June 21, 2005, Washington D.C. Participant. Religious and Ethical Reflections on the End of Life. Sponsored by the Culture of Life Institute and the Ethics and Public Policy Center.

April 28-29, 2005, Washington D.C. Organized and directed the second Westchester Institute Scholars Forum on the topic of 'altered nuclear transfer.'

March 7-8, 2005, Rome, Italy. Participant. "The Global State of Stem Cells and Cloning" sponsored by the Culture of Life Institute, the Discovery Institute, The Federalist Society and the Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum.

October 28-29, 2004, Washington D.C. Organized and directed the first Westchester Institute Scholars Forum on the topic of heterologous embryo transfer.

November , 13-14 2001, Rome, Italy. Participant. "The Stem Cell Dilemma: For the Good of All Human Beings?" sponsored by the Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum.

Articles in Christian and Secular Press

"Six Stem Cell Facts" (with Robert P. George), *The Wall Street Journal*, March 14, 2007

"Secular Humanists to the Rescue" *National Review Online*, December 13, 2006

"We Need Answers" *National Review Online*, September 11, 2006

"A Step Toward Clarity" *National Review Online*, July 7, 2006

"Should Vatican alter condom stance?" *New York Daily News*, May 14, 2006

"Hitting Rewind" *National Review Online*, May 10, 2006

"Cloning After Hwang," In Depth, *National Catholic Register*, January 29, 2006

Scholarly Societies

2006-present	The Society of Christian Philosophers
2002-present	American Catholic Philosophical Association
2002-present	Fellowship of Catholic Scholars
2003-present	National Catholic Bioethics Center
2003-2004	The Hastings Center
2003-2004	Society of Catholic Social Scientists

Institutional Leadership

1998- present. Founder and Executive Director of *The Westchester Institute for Ethics and the Human Person*, a Catholic think-tank dedicated to fundamental research on the Western moral tradition (www.westchesterinstitute.net).

September 2000—December 2002. Senior coordinator of the taskforce overseeing the launch of the congregation's first university in the United States.

1989-1990. During tenure as Academic Director of the *Immaculate Conception Apostolic School* in Center Harbor, New Hampshire, a minor seminary for boys, grades 7 through 9, oversaw the foundation and accreditation of the congregation's seminary high school in Cheshire, CT for grades 10 through 12.

Television & radio appearances, and area lectures

Fr. Berg is a frequent guest speaker at parishes on bioethical and healthcare ethics issues. He speaks frequently on radio programs as an expert on diverse bioethical issues including stem cells, cloning, and 'living wills'. He has published or been quoted in the news service *Zenit*, the *National Catholic Register*, *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. He has also made appearances on EWTN's 'The World Over' with Raymond Arroyo, and Fox's 'At Large' with Geraldo Rivera.

Other

Retreat master—Ignatian Spiritual Exercises. Has directed several multiple-day retreats for diocesan clergy and laity since January of 2001.

Editorial consultant to the weekly newspaper *National Catholic Register*

Pre-Cana marriage preparation and "3-to-Get-Married" program coordinator

March 2000-May 2001; January 2003 to May 2005. Directed numerous one-day and three-day marriage preparation programs for over 500 engaged couples and gave presentations on marriage and human sexuality, and the sacramentality of marriage.

Educational Consultant.

January 2003-present. Consultant for the launch of the University of Sacramento.

September 2000-December 2002. Senior coordinator of the taskforce overseeing the launch of the congregation's first university in the United States, the University of Sacramento.

January 1997-December 1998. Served as an advisor to *National Consultants for Education*, an organization founded to provide assistance to independent Catholic schools across the US and Canada in the area of curriculum, school operations, administration, and teacher formation.

Member, Board of Directors, The Institute for the Psychological Sciences, Arlington, Va.

Member, Board of Trustees, The University of Sacramento, Sacramento, Ca.

Confessor and spiritual director for laity and diocesan clergy.