

WILLIAM C. FRENCH

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. 1985 The Divinity School, The University of Chicago (Ethics and Social Justice) Dissertation:
"Christianity and the Domination of Nature."
M.Div. 1977 The Divinity School, Harvard University (Religion and Ethics)
B.A. 1973 Dickinson College (History)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Present Position: Loyola University of Chicago Associate Professor of Christian Ethics, 1990-present (Assistant Professor, 1985); Director, Loyola's Center for Ethics 2002-2009. Director of the Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies Program 2011-

Adjunct Professor, Semester at Sea Summer Program traveling on ship visiting a number of Mediterranean countries. Sponsored by the University of Virginia, June-August 2013. I taught "War and Peace in Europe and the Middle East."

Prairie State College, Chicago, History Instructor, 1980, 81 (summers)

Willibrord Catholic High School, Teacher/Religion Department Head, Chicago, 1978-

National Children's Center, Washington, D.C., special education teacher, 1973-

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Teaching competence: religious ethics, environmental ethics, social justice issues, peace and conflict studies, and religion and culture,

Research interests: Catholic social ethics; environmental ethics and policy, religion and nature, religious traditions on conflict and peacemaking, gun violence in America

JOURNAL ARTICLES

"Natural Law and Ecological Responsibility: Drawing on the Thomistic Tradition," University of St. Thomas Law Journal 5:1 (Winter 2008): 126.

"Common Ground, Common Skies: Natural Law and Ecological Responsibility," Journal of Ecumenical Studies 42:3 (Summer 2007):373-388.

"In Harm's Way in America: Gun Violence and Religious Ethics." Shalom Papers: A Journal of Theology & Public Policy 2:3 (Summer 2000):373.

"Character and Cruelty in Huckleberry Finn: Why the Ending Works." Soundings 81:1-2 (Spring/Summer 1998):157-79.

"Knowing Where You Are." Special issue on "War and Remembrance." Peace Review: A Transnational Quarterly 8:2 (June 1996): 173-80.

"Against Biospherical Egalitarianism." Journal of Environmental Ethics 17:1 (Spring 1995):35-7. Reprinted in Philosophical Dialogues: Arne Naess and the Progress of Deep Ecology, by Witoszek and Harold Glasser (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 1999), 142-7. Republished in Environmental Ethics: Foundational Readings, Critical Responses, edited by Joel Kassiola (San Diego: Cognella, Inc., 2019), 217-229.

BOOK CHAPTERS

"Introduction: Peace Studies and Religion," in Ednan Aslan, Marcia Hermansen, Evrim Arsan, eds. *Peace Education: Perspectives, Pedagogy, Politics* (New York: Springer, 2022), 3-14.

"Ask the Winds, Rains, and waves Around Us: Justice and Prudence in a Time of Planetary Emergency," in Julia Brumbaugh and Natalia Imperato, eds. *Turning to the Heavens and the Earth: Theological Reflections on a Cosmological Conversion: Essays in Honor of Elizabeth A. Johnson* (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2016), 147-65.

"Teaching the Just War Tradition," in Brian K. Pennington, ed., *Teaching Religion and Violence* (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2012), 295.

"Grace is Everywhere: TCf-2 (a)4 (n K)2 (. P)-n p8j ()Tj -0.004 erve o24e:

"The World as God's Body: Theological Ethics and Panentheism." Broken and Whole: Essays on Religion and the Body, ed. Maureen A. Tilley and Susan A. Ross (Lanham: University Press of America, 1995), 133-44.

"Catholicism and the Common Good of the Biosphere." An Ecology of the Spirit: Religious Reflection and Environmental Consciousness, ed. Michael B. A. Bauman, MD: University Press of America, 1994), pp. 177-94.

"Beast Machines and the Technocratic Reduction of Life." Good News for Animals?: Christian Approaches to Animal Welfare, ed. Jay B. McDaniel and Charles Pinches (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Press, 1993), pp. 248.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES

"Ecological Ethics." The Encyclopedia of Violence, Peace, and Conflict, ed. Lester R Kurtz (San Diego: Elsevier, Academic Press, 2022), 820. This is the third revision of "Ecological Ethics." The Encyclopedia of Violence, Peace, and Conflict, ed. Lester R Kurtz (San Diego: Academic Press, 1999), 1: 616-23; revised for second edition of Encyclopedia of Violence, Peace and Conflict, 3 vols. ed. Lester R. Kurtz (San Diego: Academic Press, 2008), 626-37 and heavily revised again in 2022.

Entries in The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature, ed. Bron Taylor. London and New York: Thoemmes Continuum, 2005).

"Jean-Jacques Rousseau" (1513 words)

"St. Francis of Assisi" (1121 words)

"Jürgen Moltmann" (627 words)

"Roman Catholicism" pp. 328-33.

WORK FORTHCOMING

Encyclopedia article "Ecology" substantially revised and expanded. Originally published in William Schweiker, ed. The Blackwell Companion to Religious Ethics (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2005), 464-76. The revised article will be in William Schweiker, ed., The Encyclopedia of Religious Ethics, 3 vols. (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, forthcoming).

WORK IN PROGRESS

Protecting the Great Chain of Being: Earth Security and Religious Responsibility. This book project links traditional stresses in Catholic ethics on the natural law and the common good of creation to contemporary concerns about atmospheric degradation and climate disruption in a number of areas of human practice.

I have submitted my personal narrative essay "Baylevue Woods" I draw from Thoreau's Walden experience and other nature writings to reflect on the woods of my childhood on my grandparents' farm 25 miles northwest of Washington, D.C. that have seen much history. These woods now

the Peace and Justice Studies Association, Arcadia University, Philadelphia, September 30, 2018.

“Climate Prudence, Justice and National Security,” at Catholic Social Tradition Conference on the 50th Anniversary of Populorum Progressio, University of Notre Dame, March 25, 2017.

“Integral Ecology,” at Loyola University Symposium: Caring for Our Common Home: Conversations on Ecology and Justice, September 9, 2015.

“Revising Gaudium et Spes in Light of the Ecological Signs of the Times,” Catholic Social Tradition Conference sponsored by the Center for Social Concern, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, March 23, 2015.

“Climate Justice and Prudence in an Age of Climate Change,” Loyola University of Chicago’s Conference on Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability, March 21, 2015.

“Urban Gun Violence and Culture Wars: Religion and the NRA,” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Baltimore, November 26, 2013.

“Just War Tradition as a Resource for Honesty in Warfare.” Keynote address at the Symposium on “Just War, Duty to Protect and Armed Intervention” at Dominican University College, Ottawa, Canada, November 16, 2012.

“Just War Theory and the Psychology of Aggression.” Keynote address at the Symposium on “War and the Political Justification of Violence” at Dominican University College, Ottawa, Canada, November 11, 2011.

Panel presentation on “Toward a Global Ethic: Interfaith Dialogue Beyond Cultural Borders,” at Fulbright Interfaith Dialogue Conference, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., December 6, 2008.

Response to Panel on “The Bible, Ethics, and the Environment,” Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, November 24, 2008.

“In Harm’s Way in America: The Burden of Gun Violence,” Conference on the Cultural and Social Impediments to a Healthy Environment for Children, The Center for the Human Rights of Children, Loyola University of Chicago, April 18, 2008.

“Human Rights in an Age of Ecological Concern,” Conference on “America, Human Rights, and the World,” Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI, September 29, 2007.

Center for Advanced Study, April 11, 2007.

"With Radical Amazement: Ecology and the Recovery of Creation," for Conference "Without Nature?: A New Condition for Theology." University of Chicago, October 27, 2006.

"Developments in Peacemaking" on panel on Religion & Violence" at the Midwest AAR, Chicago, IL., April 1, 2006.

Respondent to Plenary Speaker on "Gaudium et spes: After Forty Years," College of Theology Society's Conference, Mobile, AL, June 3, 2005.

"Common Ground, Common Skies, and Shared Responsibilities," Global Ethics Conference, University of Chicago Divinity School, April 13, 2005.

"Urgency and Grace in a Time of Climate Change," Conference on Faith, Ethics, Environment: The Response of a Catholic University, University of Notre Dame, November 9, 2004.

Panel Presentation on "Theology, Ethics, and Ecology," at the Catholic Theological Association of America meeting, Cincinnati, June 6, 2003.

"The Theology of the NRA," American Academy of Religion, Denver, Nov. 19, 2001

"Sprawl, Cars and Climate Change: Equity and Regional Design," American Academy of Religion National Meeting, Boston, Nov. 23, 1999.

"Population Growth, Catholicism, and Ecological Laws," American Academy of Religion National Meeting, Boston, Nov. 22, 1999.

"Ecological Sustainability and Public Policy," Conference on Christianity and Ecology, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, April 18, 1998.

"Postmodern Christian Ethics: Cultural and Ecological Decenterings," Society of Christian Ethics, Atlanta, GA, January 9, 1998.

"Good Foundations: Spirituality, Ethics and the Architectural Craft," School of Architecture, University of Notre Dame, Sept. 9, 1996.

"Oppression and the Planetary Ecosphere," American Academy of Religion National Meeting, Philadelphia, Nov. 17, 1995.

"Contesting Energies: The Biosphere, Economic Surge, and the Ethics of Restraint," Notre Dame Global Stewardship Conference, Notre Dame, Indiana, April 1995.

"Guns," Society of Christian Ethics, Washington, D.C., January 7, 1995.

"Ecology and Urban Revitalization: Taming Suburban Scatterization," American Academy of Religion National Meeting, Chicago, November 22, 1994.

"God and the Biosphere as Superpower," Peace Studies Association Conference, San Francisco, April 8, 1994.

"The Self in Context," Bible and Theology Conference, Chicago, November 8, 1993.

"Native American and Medieval Christian Views on Creation: Black Elk, Thomas Aquinas and St. Francis Speak," Parliament of the World's Religions, Chicago, September 1993.

"The World as God's Body: Theological Ethics and Panentheism," plenary session panel at the College Theology Society, St. Mary's College, Moraga, California June 1993.

"Power Discourse and Ecological Concern: Biosphere and God as Super," Society of Christian Ethics, Savannah, GA., Jan. 8, 1993.

"Vincent van Gogh on Health, Illness and Solar Energy," American Academy of Religion National Meeting, San Francisco, November 1992.

"Can Animals Have a Relationship with God?" at Universidad Complutense/ University of Madrid, July 17, 1992

"Questioning Deep Ecology and the Critique of Hierarchy," American Academy of Religion National Meeting, Kansas City, November 1991.

"The Antinomies in Recent Papal Thought: Birth Control, `Natural', and the Biosphere," Society of Christian Ethics, Culver City, California, January 1-13, 1991.

"Beast Machines and the Technocratic Reduction of Life," Good News for Animals?: Contemporary Christian Approaches to Animal Welfare Conference, Duke Divinity School, Oct. 45, 1990.

"Catholicism and the Security of the Biosphere," 25 Years after Vatican II Conference, Washington, D.C., September 28, 1990.

"Catholicism and the Common Good of the Biosphere," College Theology Society, New Orleans, May 31-June 3, 1990.

"Historicist and Creation-Centered Approaches to Recent Catholic Thought: Ecological Dangers and the Defense of Creation," panel presentation at College Theology Society, New Orleans, May 31-June 3, 1990.

"Theological Ethics and the Color Yellow: Reflections on the Centennial of Van Gogh's Death," Midwest Regional American Academy of Religion, Kalamazoo, Michigan, March-April 1, 1990.

Co-producer with Tracy Pitchman of film on "Women's Rituals in Benaras." Two weeks of film shot in India in October and November 1998. Editing required.

Curator for exhibit "Peacemaking: A Democratic Tradition," The Peace Museum, Chicago, August-September 1996.

COMMUNITY TALKS

Reflection day leader for Saint James Roman Catholic Church in Chicago at October 28, 2016 retreat. Two talks: "Gandhi and King on Peacemaking" and "Social Injustice and Job loss in Chicago."

PowerPoint/ Presentation on "Christianity and Ecological Responsibility" to First United Methodist Church of Evanston, IL April 3, 2016.

"Defending the Great Chain of Being: Thomas Aquinas and Earth Security," Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Glenview, IL, October 12, 2013.

"The Sacred Earth: Views Both East and West," Common Ground, Lake Forest, IL February 3, 2010.

"Christianity and Ecological Responsibility," First United Methodist Church of Evanston, November 9, 2008.

"Peacemaking: A Great Work," Common Ground, Lake Forest, IL, November 8, 2008

Panel for Woodstock Theological Center video recording on "Catholic Theology and Ecological Sustainability: A Call to the Church." (c) T(on G C)-3 (a) 4BDC -0.00<</M10 (l)JTJ 0.09u (o)JT10 (r)3 (e)4 (s)-1 (2. c5

Visiting Scholar in Catholic Thought Benedictine University, IL, February 23-25, 2005.
Lecturing on Catholicism, Ecology, and Interreligious Dialogue.

“Catholicism and the Environment” Saints Peter and Paul Parish, Naperville, IL, ~~7~~ ¹ April
27, 2004.

Discussion leader for Freshman Convocation discussion of Wil Haygood, *Shoah*: Thurgood Marshall and the Supreme Court Nomination that Changed America, August 25, 2017.

"Religion and Water," lecture/ Power Point presented in STEP Water Class run by Institute of Environmental Sustainability, April 18, 2017.

Guest Lecturer in M. Schuck's graduate class on "Thomas Aquinas and Ecological Concerns." March 28, 2017.

Discussion leader for Freshman Convocation discussion of Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*, August 26, 2016.

"Teaching Religious Ethics and Sustainability." Focus on Teaching and Learning Workshop, August 18, 2016.

"Religion and Water," STEP Water Class run by Institute of Environmental Sustainability, February 2, 2016.

Discussion leader for Freshman Convocation discussion of Irfan Habib's *Acts of Faith*, August 21, 2016.

"Manifest Destiny and the Theology of the Land," Symposium on exhibit at the Loyola University Museum of Art, May 16, 2008.

Panelist in response to screening of "King Corn," Loyola University, April 7, 2008.

Panelist on "Nuclear Weapons and Just War Theory," Symposium on "Dr. Atomic," Loyola University of Chicago, January 13, 2008.

Panelist on "Fighting Words: The Speech, Respect, and Religious Identity," March 23, 2006.

"Darfur and Genocide," Loyola University Amnesty International Group, March 20, 2006

"The Theology of Vincent van Gogh," World Theology Club, December 1, 2004

"Just War Theory," Teaching by Anti-War Network, November 4, 2004

"Justice, Neighbor Love, and the Common Good," for the Shared Text Symposium on Work, Poverty and the Minimum Wage," September 16 and 17, 2004.

Organizer and presenter in panel on "Go, Frodo, Go: Theology and Ethics in Lord of the Rings," World Theology Club, February 10, 2004.

"Just War Theory and the War on Iraq," Loyola University Law School, April 24, 2003.

“Biogenetic Engineering and Biospheric Security,” conference on “Genetic Testing: Are we Really Ready?” Loyola University Chicago, April 11, 2003.

Participant in Iraq War Teachin, March 26, 2003.

“Must Civilizations Clash? Thinking about Religion and Conflict,” Theology Department Colloquium, February 5, 2003.

“Just War Theory, Threat Perception, and the Restraints of Response,” Iraq Teachin, October 7, 2002.

“Sprawl, Cars, and Climate Change: Justice and Regional Design,” slideshow presentation at the Ethics and the Urban Environment Conference sponsored by the Center for the Advanced Study of Christianity and Culture at Loyola April 17, 2002.

“It’s My Call,” presentation on vocation for Evoke program, April 18, 2002.

“After September 11th: The Challenges,” Prospective Students and Parents Sunday, Nov. 11, 2001.

“For Whom The Bell Tolls,” Orthodox Students Gathering and Service, Nov. 7, 2001.

“The World Trade Center Attack,” interview on WLUA, September 24, 2001.

“Just War Theory and Religious Violence,” Teachin on the September 11th Attack, September 19, 2001.

COURSES TAUGHT

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY

Moral Problems: War and Peace

Peace Studies Overview

Comparative Religious Ethics (honors)

Religion and Violence in the Middle East (honors)

Seminar in Christian Ethics: War and Peace (graduate)

Christian Ethics: Law and Responsibility (graduate)

Religion, Violence, & Peacemaking (graduate)

Catholic Theology: Traditions & Transitions (graduate)

Global Religious Ethics

Modern Problems: Ecology Crisis

Theology and Ecology (grad.)

Foundations of Christian Morality

Social Ethics (graduate)

Natural Law & Theol. Ethics (grad)

War and Peace: South Asia

Religion & Ecology

Liberation Theology (graduate)

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Christian Social Ethics (summer 1995)

PRAIRIE STATE COLLEGE

History of Western Civilization

American History

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Academy of Religion, 1992-present. Chaired Consultation “Ecological Issues and

Religious Reflection," 1985; "Religion, War, and Peace Program," Evaluator, 1998.
Association of Environmental Studies and Sciences 2019-
College Theology Society, 1986, 9097, 0307
Society of Christian Ethics, 1982-97
Peace and Justice Studies Association, 1994-2006/2008. 2018-present.
Catholic Theological Association of America 2008-10

SERVICE TO LOYOLA UNIVERSITY

Theology Department

--Director of Majors , 1989-92, 1997-98, 1999-2000, 2001-05. Provided oversight over all aspects of our majors programs. I chaired the committee that developed a new major in religious studies
--Member of Undergraduate Programs Committee, 1992, 1997-98, 1999-2000, 2001-06. Chair from 1989-92, 1999-2000.
--Faculty advisor to World Theology Club student organization (2003)-Advisor to Students' Club (1984-88).
--Graduate Program Committee, Ethics Section coordinator 1990-06; 2008-present
--Departmental Advisory Committee member 1991-94; 1996-97; 1999-2000; 2001-02; 2008-9, 2019-20.
--Ethics search committees, chaired four
--Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Search Committee, November-March 2016.

University Service

Center for Ethics, director, 2006-2009; directing center programs, chairing major university conference on "Peacemaking in an Age of Terror" (March 2007) another on "Globalization for the Common Good" (May 31-June 4, 2009)

Loyola Partners, director, 2003-2006. Liaison between a number of community social justice and empowerment groups and faculty and students interested in service learning opportunities.

Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies Program founding director, 1994-1998. Grew program to 50 students. Co-chaired program development committee 1992-1994. Advisory committee 1998-present. Planning committee for Center for Peace Studies 2002-2008; Co-chair of conference planning committee on "Peacemaking in an Age of Terror" (budgeted \$50,000) 2002-07. Since 2017 to present serve as director once again

Environmental Studies/Sciences Program 1995-present. Coordinator of faculty environmental group that started Earth Day Events at Loyola and first faculty advisor to Students' Environmental Alliance (1995-98). Member of planning committee for Environmental Studies/Sciences program. Program advisory committee and now the advisory board of the Institute of Environmental Sustainability 2000-present.

Greenhouse Learning Community instructor in Freshman learning community, 2012-Magis Initiative. Program promotes service learning and leadership. Advisory board 2003-

Visiting Scholar at Weston Jesuit School of Theology, Cambridge, MA., Loyola research leave, fall 2000-spring 2001.

Louisville Institute Sabbatical Grant 1998-99: \$40,000 award to support leave of absence from teaching and administrative duties in order to do research for a book titled Natural Law and