

FRANCISCO EDUARDO PLAZA

4025 University Blvd., Houston, TX 77005 | 561-385-8146 | f.plaza@cathedral-hs.org; fcoedoplaza@gmail.com

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Cathedral High School, Houston, Texas

Catholic Culture Teacher

Developed Catholic Culture curriculum for all four years.

Summer 2022–Present

St. Thomas High School, Houston, Texas

World Language Specialist; Teacher

Full-time tutor for every level of Spanish, French, Latin, and Theology.

Taught Spanish I in Spring 2021, and Spanish III from 2021-2022.

Spring 2021–Spring 2022

Lyceum Institute

Faculty Fellow

Taught: Introduction to Catholic Political Philosophy

Developed syllabus and overall course structure for online seminars.

2020–Present

University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas

Adjunct Professor

Taught: Philosophy of the Human Person, Ethics, Metaphysics, Medieval Philosophy, Modern Philosophy.

Developed syllabus and overall course structure, and administered all grades.

Fall 2014–Fall 2020

St. Mary's Seminary, Houston, Texas

Adjunct Professor

Taught: Introducción a la Filosofía (Spring 2014, 2016 and 2018). Developed syllabus and overall course structure, and administered all grades.

Spring 2014–Spring 2018

EDUCATION

University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas

Ph.D. in Philosophy

Dissertation: "*Beyond Modernity: Jacques Maritain's Answer to the Crisis of our Time*"

2021

University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas

M.A. in Philosophy

2013

Palm Beach Atlantic University, West Palm Beach, Florida

B.S. Honors in Mathematics, Philosophy (*cum laude*)

2011

Palm Beach Atlantic University, West Palm Beach, Florida

A.A. Honors in Pre-Engineering Studies (*cum laude*)

2009

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

Graduate Student Award, *American Maritain Association*

2015

Outstanding Graduate in Philosophy, *Palm Beach Atlantic University*

2011

Outstanding Graduate in Mathematics, *Palm Beach Atlantic University*

2011

Who's Who in America

2010

President's List, *Palm Beach Atlantic University*

2010

Provost's List, *Palm Beach Atlantic University*

2007, 2008, 2009

SCHOLARSHIPS RECEIVED

Strake Corporate Scholarship

2017–2018

Brown Aquinas Scholarship

2014–2015

Cullen Endowed Graduate Philosophy Scholarship

2014–2015, 2013–2014,
2019–2020

Bess Burkitt Crane Endowed General Scholarship

2013–2014

Jesse & Mary Jones Scholarship

2013–2014, 2011–2012,
2019–2020

C. Greg Evans Scholarship in Thomistic Studies	2013–2014, 2011–2012
Fondren Graduate Endowed Scholarship-Philosophy	2012–2013
P.C. & Josephine Del Barto Scholarship	2012–2013
Bill & Sally Slick Endowed Scholarship	2012–2013, 2019–2020

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

<i>“Christian Philosophy as an Existential Habitus”</i> Published in <i>Reality Journal</i>.	2021
<i>“Political Science and Realism”</i> Published in <i>Reality Journal I</i>.	2019
<i>“Maritain’s Philosophy of Culture: A Bridge between Metaphysics and Politics”</i> Published in <i>In Search for Harmony</i>, ed. James G. Hanink [American Maritain Association, 2019].	2017
<i>“Subjectivity and the Prise de Conscience in Jacques Maritain”</i> Published in <i>Engaging the Times</i>, ed. Joshua Schulz [American Maritain Association, 2017].	2015

PRESENTATIONS

<i>“A Defense of Maritain’s ‘Concrete Historical Ideal’ against Contemporary Ideologies”</i> Paper presented at the American Maritain Association 2022 annual meeting. Hosted by DeSales University, Center Valley, Pennsylvania.	2022
<i>“Political Science and Realism: A Retaking of Political Science for the Post-Modern Age”</i> Paper presented at the American Catholic Philosophical Association satellite session “21st Century Thomism.” St. Louis, Missouri.	2021
<i>“Christian Philosophy as an Existential Habitus”</i> Paper presented at the <i>Forum Philosophicum</i> Christian Philosophy conference. Hosted by Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, Poland.	2020
<i>“Christian Philosophy as an Existential Habitus”</i> Colloquium presentation for the <i>Lyceum Institute</i>.	2020
<i>“Maritain’s Philosophy of Culture: A Bridge between Metaphysics and Politics”</i> Paper presented at the American Maritain Association, New Orleans, Louisiana.	2017
<i>“Jacques Maritain’s Philosophy of Culture”</i> Paper presented at the American Catholic Philosophical Association satellite session “21st Century Thomism.” San Francisco, California.	2016
<i>“Subjectivity and the Prise de Conscience in Jacques Maritain”</i> Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Maritain Association, San Francisco, California. Selected for the outstanding graduate student award for the year.	2015
<i>“Wojtyla’s Broader Sense of Alienation”</i> Paper presented to the Society for Thomistic Personalism at the American Catholic Philosophical Association. Indianapolis, Indiana.	2013

RELATED ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA Abigail Adams Institute Seminar, “Tocqueville, Murray, and the American Proposition” Participated as a student in the seminar.	2017
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Harvard University, Cambridge, MA **2017**
Program on Integrative Knowledge and Human Flourishing Seminar
“Kierkegaard and the Happy Life”
 Participated as a student in the seminar.

Yale University, New Haven, CT **2015**
Elm Institute Summer Seminar, “The Search for Order in History”
 Participated as a student in the seminar.

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ **2014**
Witherspoon Institute Summer Seminar, “First Principles”
 Participated as a student in the seminar.

POPULAR WRITINGS

“The Roots of Human Dignity & its Modern Dissolution – Part II” **June 10th, 2020**
Reality Journal

“The Roots of Human Dignity & its Modern Dissolution – Part I” **March 19th, 2020**
Reality Journal

“Dostoevsky and the Cry of Rachel” **June 11th, 2019**
Reality Journal

BOOK REVIEWS

“An Apologia for Catholic Democracy in Response to Integralism” **July 3rd, 2020**
 A review of and response to Thomas Crean, OP and Alan Fimister’s *Integralism: A Manual of Political Philosophy*.
Reality Journal

“Mieczysław Gogacz. The Polish Christian Philosophy in the 20th Century” **2020**
 Published in *Forum Philosophicum* 25, no. 2 (2020): 348–55.

“The Right Side of History” **May 16th, 2019**
 A review of Ben Shapiro’s *The Right Side of History: How Reason and Moral Purpose Made the West Great*.
Reality Journal

RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

American Maritain Association **Summer 2022–Present**
Editor; Treasurer
 Editor for the 2022 American Maritain Association proceedings, and treasurer for the association.

Reality Journal **2019–Present**
Editor
 One of the founding editors of Reality Journal.

Society for 21st Century Thomism **January 2016–Present**
Co-Founder
 ACPA Satellite session promoting Aristotelian-Thomistic philosophy’s relevance to contemporary issues.

American Catholic Philosophical Association **August 2014–December 2015**
Graduate Assistant
 National Secretary: Mirela Oliva, Treasurer: Steven Jensen.

John Paul II Forum **August 2014–May 2015**
Graduate Assistant
 Director: John Hittinger.

Pontifical Academy of St. Thomas Aquinas
Graduate assistant 2014
 Worked on programming board, editing for the proceedings.

OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Invited to give a class and a talk to the students and faculty of Aquinas College on totalitarianism. 2022
 Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Attended the 2021 meeting of the American Catholic Philosophical Association as a presenter 2021
 St. Louis, Missouri.

Attended the 2020 meeting of the *Forum Philosophicum* conference on Christian Philosophy 2020
 Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, Poland

Attended the 2018 meeting of the American Catholic Philosophical Association as chair and organizer of the 2019
 Society for 21st Century Thomism Satellite Session

Attended the 2017 meeting of the American Maritain Association 2017
 New Orleans, Louisiana.

Attended the 2016 meeting of the American Catholic Philosophical Association as a presenter 2016
 San Francisco, California.

Attended the 2016 meeting of the American Maritain Association 2016
 New York, New York.

Attended the 2015 meeting of the American Catholic Philosophical Association as an assistant to the secretary 2015
 Boston, Massachusetts.

Attended the 2015 meeting of the American Maritain Association as a presenter 2015
 San Francisco, California.

Attended the 2014 meeting of the Pontifical Academy of St. Thomas Aquinas as a graduate assistant 2014
 Houston, Texas.

Served as a justice for the Graduate Student Association at the University of St. Thomas 2013–2014
 Houston, Texas.

Attended the 2013 meeting of the American Catholic Philosophical Association as a presenter 2013
 Indianapolis, Indiana.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

The Philosophy of Jacques Maritain, The Crisis of Modern Culture, Contemporary Political Theory.

AREAS OF COMPETANCE

Philosophy of History and Culture, Philosophy of Religion, Moral and Political Philosophy, Metaphysics, Philosophy of the Human Person.

LANGUAGES

English – Native language
 Spanish – Native language
 French – Reading knowledge
 Latin – Reading knowledge

REFERENCES

Dr. John Hittinger
 Professor and Chair of the Philosophy Department, Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas
hittjp@stthom.edu; 713-889-4289

Dr. Mirela Oliva

Professor, Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas
olivam@stthom.edu; 713-942-5062

Dr. Michael Boler

Classics Professor, University of St. Thomas
bolerm@stthom.edu; 713-525-3126

Dr. Terry Hall

Professor and Dissertation Reader, Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas
thall@stthom.edu; 713-525-3587

Dr. Mary Catherine Sommers

Professor and former director of the Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas
sommers@stthom.edu; 713-942-5048

Fr. Justin Fletcher

Pastor at Presentation of the Lord Catholic Church
Fr.Fletcher@presentation.church; 832-856-2376