

# Steven Waldorf

The Catholic University of America | 620 Michigan Avenue, NE | Washington, DC 20064  
(202) 319 5980 | waldorf@cua.edu

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 2023– The Catholic University of America, School of Philosophy  
Assistant Professor
- 2021–23 University of Chicago, Departments of Political Science and History  
Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Postdoctoral Research Fellow

## EDUCATION

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- 2015–19 Ph.D., Political Thought and Intellectual History  
University of Cambridge (Corpus Christi College)  
*Dissertation:* “Virtue and the Philosophical Life in the Thomist Tradition at the University of Padua, from Aquinas to Cajetan (1225–1534)”; Approved with no corrections  
*Supervisor:* Professor Annabel Brett; *Examiners:* Professor Thomas Pink, Dr. Magnus Ryan
- 2014–15 MPhil, Political Thought and Intellectual History; Degree Result: Distinction  
University of Cambridge (Corpus Christi College)  
*Dissertation:* “Natural Law and the Goodness of Human Actions in Aquinas, Suárez, and Vásquez”
- 2009–13 A.B., *Summa cum laude*, Government (Theology Minor); Valedictorian; GPA: 4.0 / 4.0  
Georgetown University; Phi Beta Kappa

## AREAS OF RESEARCH FOCUS

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Medieval and early modern ethics and political philosophy

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

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### *Fellowships*

- 2021–23 Donnelley Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, University of Chicago
- 2020 Postdoctoral Mandate, KU Leuven, De Wulf-Mansion Centre for Ancient, Medieval, and Renaissance Philosophy (declined in order to pursue Donnelley Fellowship)
- 2015–18 Cambridge International Scholarship, Cambridge International Trust
- 2014 H.B. Earhart Fellowship, Earhart Foundation

### *Competitive Grants*

- 2023 American Political Science Association Travel Grant

- 2021 American Political Science Association Travel Grant
- 2017 Lightfoot Grant, University of Cambridge
- 2017 Cambridge History Faculty Fieldwork Grant
- 2017 Lightfoot Grant, University of Cambridge
- 2016 Lightfoot Grant, University of Cambridge
- 2016 Prince Consort Grant, University of Cambridge

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### *Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles*

- 2024 “Thomas Aquinas’s Political Science: Philosophy or Theology?” *The Review of Politics* 86 (2024): 290-312.
- 2022 “Nature, Grace, and ‘the Drama of Atheist Humanism’: Henri de Lubac’s Account of Modernity.” *The Political Science Reviewer* 46, no. 1: 359–388.
- 2021 “The Historical Development of Cajetan’s Philosophy of Pure Nature and its Origins in the Thought of John Capreolus.” *The Thomist* 85, no. 1: 1–55.

### *Forthcoming Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters*

“Consent of the Governed, Natural Law, and Religious Toleration in the Pre-Liberal Tradition.” In *Aristocratic Voices: Traditional Alternatives to Liberalism, Populism and Radical Egalitarianism*. Edited by Richard Avramenko and Ethan Alexander-Davey. (Lexington)

“The Origins of Francisco Suárez’s Theory of Natural Beatitude and Biblioteca de Santa Cruz Manuscript 404.” In *On Suárez’s Ethics*. Edited by Juan Antonio Senent de Frutos. (Brill)

### *Articles in Progress*

Aquinas’s theory of political authority

Aquinas’s understanding of human beatitude

Francisco de Vitoria on natural law and the liberty of the Church

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

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### *Conference Papers*

- 2024 “The Conditional Character of Consent in Aquinas’s Theory of Political Authority.” Accepted for presentation at the Aquinas at 800 Conference at the University of Notre Dame. Notre Dame, Indiana. September 2024.

- 2024 “Francisco de Vitoria, Natural Law, and the *Libertas Ecclesiae*.” Presented at the 57<sup>th</sup> Philosophical Meetings at the University of Navarra (The Social Ontology of Sovereignty). Pamplona, Spain. March 2024.
- 2023 “Religious Liberty and the Natural Law in the Scholastic Tradition.” Accepted for presentation at the APSA Annual Meeting. Los Angeles, California. September 2023.
- 2022 “Virtue and the Politics of Pluralism in the Thought of Jacques Maritain.” Presented at the APSA Annual Meeting. September 2022.
- 2022 “The Moral and Political Science of Thomas Aquinas: Philosophy or Theology?” Presented at the Medieval Philosophy and Theology Conference of the De Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture and Jacques Maritain Society. Notre Dame, Indiana. May 2022.
- 2022 “Boethius of Dacia, Thomas Aquinas, and the Aristotelian Understanding of Human Nature’s Perfection.” Presented at the 57th International Congress on Medieval Studies. May 2022.
- 2022 “Natural Law and the Rights of Religious Minorities in the Thought of Francisco Suárez and Marsilius of Padua.” Presented at the 2022 Loyola University Andalucía Research Group for Jesuit Thought and Tradition in Early Modernity Conference. May 2022.
- 2022 “Renaissance Padua and the Origins of Cajetan’s Understanding of Natural Beatitude.” Accepted for presentation at the Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting. Dublin, Ireland. March 2022.
- 2022 “Virtue and the Politics of Pluralism in the Thought of Jacques Maritain.” Presented at the Eric Voegelin Society Conference. January 2022.
- 2021 “Natural Law and Natural Right in Hugo Grotius and Gabriel Vásquez.” Presented at the APSA Annual Meeting. October 2021.
- 2021 “Biblioteca de Santa Cruz Manuscript 404 and the Origins of Francisco Suárez’s Theory of Pure Nature.” Presented at the Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting. April 2021.
- 2021 “Man’s Supernatural End and the Givenness of Being in Modernity.” Presented at the Eric Voegelin Society Conference. January 2021.
- 2020 “Religious Toleration and Consent of the Governed in the Early Modern Age: Marsilius of Padua and Francisco Suárez.” Presented at the APSA Annual Meeting. September 2020.
- 2017 “Thomas Aquinas and the Incompleteness of Philosophy.” Presented at the 8th Braga Meeting on Ethics and Political Philosophy. Braga, Portugal. June 2017.
- 2016 “Natural Law and Divine Providence in Thomas Aquinas and Hugo Grotius.” Presented at the 8th Conference of the Portuguese Political Science Association. Lisbon, Portugal. March 2016.

#### *Invited Presentations*

- 2024 “Liberalism, the Good, and the Flourishing Society.” Lecture presented at the In Altum Program at The Catholic University of America. Washington, DC. May and June 2024.

- 2022 “Scholasticism and Contemporary Philosophy.” Symposium presentation at the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo. São Paulo, Brazil. August 2022.
- 2021 “Virtue, Politics, and Charity in the Thomistic Tradition.” Presentation at the University of Chicago Medieval Studies Workshop. October 2021.
- 2021 “Religious Toleration and Consent of the Governed in the Early Modern Age: Marsilius of Padua and Francisco Suárez.” Paper presented at The Catholic University of America Political Thought Symposium. February 2021.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### *Instructor of Record, The Catholic University of America*

- Fall 2024 Church and State in the History of Political Philosophy (PHIL 456 – Senior Seminar)
- Fall 2024 The Classical Mind (PHIL 201)
- Spring 2024 Philosophy of Natural Right and Natural Law (PHIL 333/633)
- Spring 2024 Theories of Ethics (PHIL 309B)
- Fall 2023 Political Philosophy (PHIL 332B)
- Fall 2023 The Classical Mind (PHIL 201)

### *Instructor of Record, University of Chicago*

- Spring 2023 Nature, Consent, and the Origins of Political Authority (PLSC 22125)
- Spring 2022 Natural Law in Scholastic Political Thought (HIST 22123)

### *Tutorial Leader, University of Cambridge*

- 2017 History Faculty Paper 19 (introductory course in history of political thought)

## **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

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### *The Catholic University of America, School of Philosophy*

Graduate Foreign Language Committee (grade French reading exams for doctoral students)

Reader, Philosophy major comprehensive exams

Academic Advisor, Philosophy majors

Organizing Committee, School of Philosophy Annual Lecture Series 2024–2025

### *Theses Examined*

- 2024 “Aristotle and Aquinas on the Role of *Fabulae* in Philosophy.” John Thomas Killackey  
Ph.L., The Catholic University of America, School of Philosophy

*Journal Peer Reviewer*

*History of Philosophy & Logical Analysis* (Brill)

*The University of Chicago*

Chaired symposium for the Lumen Christi Institute and assisted with organization of its events

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## **LANGUAGES**

Latin	Read (including paleography)
French	Read
German	Read; intermediate speaking and writing proficiency
Italian	Read; advanced speaking and writing proficiency
Spanish	Read; advanced speaking and writing proficiency
Portuguese	Read
English	Native

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## **MEMBERSHIPS AND RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS**

The Institute for Human Ecology, Faculty Fellow

Eric Voegelin Society

De Wulf-Mansion Centre for Ancient, Medieval, and Renaissance Philosophy, KU Leuven

Research Group for Jesuit Thought and Tradition in Early Modernity, Loyola University Andalucía

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## **REFERENCES**

Professor Annabel Brett  
Faculty of History  
Cambridge University

Professor Thomas Pink  
Faculty of Philosophy  
King's College London

Dr. Magnus Ryan  
Faculty of History  
Cambridge University