

JOSEPH R. WOOD, Ph.D., Colonel (USAF Ret.)

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- Doctorate from ecclesiastically and civilly accredited faculty with broad history of philosophy coursework (emphasis on ancient/classical and medieval, with some modern) and focus on political philosophy.
- Extensive teaching experience at undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Eight years of experience in academic administration.
- 30+ years in and around government including senior policy positions and military command and staff positions.

Education

Ph.D. (2019), M.A. (2016), School of Philosophy, Catholic University of America. Ecclesiastically and civilly accredited School of Philosophy with a history of philosophy curriculum in the service of the Catholic Church.

- Ph.D. dissertation on *Political Form in the Work of Pierre Manent*, defended “with distinction.” Dissertation committee consisted of chair Dr. V. Bradley Lewis, Monsignor Robert Sokolowski, and Dean John McCarthy; defense panel included Dr. David Walsh and Dr. Phillip Henderson.
- M.A. thesis on “The Human Agent in MacIntyre and Sokolowski.” Directed by Dr. V. Bradley Lewis, with additional readers Monsignor Robert Sokolowski and Dr. Kevin White.

Masters in Public Administration (Two-Year, 1989), Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government.

- Kennedy Fellow for top 25% of admitted candidates.
- Studies focused on U.S. foreign/defense policy, and European politics and security. Teaching fellow in American Foreign Policy. Thesis-equivalent case study on “President Carter’s Troop Withdrawal from Korea” with Professors Richard Neustadt and Ernest May.

Diplôme, French Joint Defense College, Paris, 1998. Senior military college.

Bachelor of Science, U.S. Air Force Academy, 1981. Major in Political Science.

Teaching Areas and Experience

Adjunct Professor, School of Philosophy, The Catholic University of America, Washington D.C., Spring 2024. Taught courses on Philosophy of Knowledge and Political Philosophy.

Professor, Philosophy and Theology, Walsh University, North Canton Ohio, 2023 – present. Teaching courses on introductory philosophy and theology to undergraduate students.

Professor, School of Philosophy and Theology, University of Notre Dame Australia, 2021 - 2023.

Taught courses on ancient philosophy, philosophy of the human person, and metaphysics to undergraduate students and seminarians. Participated in bioethics panels for medical students. I remain involved with UNDA in the area of international cooperation.

Professor, Institute of World Politics, Washington D.C., 2012 – 2021. A 150-student independent, fully accredited institute with masters and professional doctorate programs. Full-time faculty appointment teaching graduate courses on “Western Moral and Political Thought” and “Sources of American Political Thought.” These courses focus on the Western and Judeo-Christian intellectual and spiritual tradition, including works by Plato, Aristotle, Tacitus, Cicero, St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, and Pierre Manent, as well as Locke, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Kant, Mill and American progressive thinkers. Excerpts from the Bible are also covered.

Faculty Member, Tertio Millennio Seminar, Kraków, Poland; and Free Society Seminar, Slovakia.

Programs for Catholics of “young professional” age and experience, focused on Catholic Social Thought and the Catholic intellectual tradition. My presentations treat the classical and Christian understanding of the human person, the classical/modern distinction, and the relationship between the person and the political community in three lectures: “The Ancient/Modern Difference,” “Is Liberalism the Problem?” and “Is the National Political Form the Solution?” Taught similar seminars in Austria and Croatia.

Department of Political Science, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO, 1989 – 1991.

Taught introductory and upper level undergraduate courses: “Introductory American Politics,” “Introductory International Relations,” “American Defense Policy,” and “U.S. Foreign Policy.”

Service to the Church

My principal service to the Church comes in the teaching opportunities listed above, which provide the occasion for philosophical formation (propaedeutic to, and supportive of, the understanding of the complementarity and necessity of faith and reason) to students of diverse backgrounds and faiths as well as many opportunities to serve as an advisor and mentor to my students.

Oblate, Order of St. Benedict, Silverstream Priory, Co. Meath, Ireland. My service includes daily prayer of the liturgy of the hours and Mass attendance in solidarity with the monks, as well as annual visits to the Priory when possible.

Advisory Board, Cana Academy, Falls Church, Virginia, USA. Cana Academy fosters classical education teaching in the classical and Catholic traditions and brings such education to audiences that have not previously enjoyed access to it. My service has included presentations on philosophy, art and history to retirement communities in Indiana and Virginia, blog contributions, and podcast interviews with prominent Catholic intellectuals (see below).

Parishioner in good standing, St. James Catholic Church, Falls Church, Virginia, USA.

Leadership, Management, Administrative and Policy Experience

Institute of World Politics, Washington D.C., 2012 - 2021. A 150-student independent, fully accredited institute with masters and professional doctorate programs. Governing Academic Board member with responsibility for overseeing all matters pertaining to curriculum development, faculty qualifications and development, and other institutional academic policies. Chairman, Admissions Committee, reviewing and deciding student applications for admission. Former Member, Search Committee for new Dean of Faculty. Member, Presidential Search Committee, seeking new president for the Institute. Responsible for full curriculum self-assessment as part of accreditation renewal with Middle States Association of Colleges and School. Revamped the institute's final comprehensive examination process for graduating students to ensure adequate student preparation and more complete assessment. Developed, in addition to core courses, a required "capstone course" to consolidate and review learning objectives over each student's full course work.

Deputy National Security Advisor to the Vice President, The White House, Washington D.C., 2005 – 2008. Represented the Vice President in interagency Cabinet Deputies Committees and Sub-Cabinet Policy Coordinating Committees. Directly responsible for all policy on Europe, Eurasia, Africa, strategic/defense and space issues, with coordinating responsibility on Middle East and Asia affairs. Prepared the Vice President for, and participated in, Presidential meetings, Cabinet Principals/National Security Council meetings, and meetings with foreign heads of state/government.

Fighter Group Commander, Pope Air Force Base, N.C., 1998 - 2001. Led 945-person, four-squadron Flying Tigers fighter group responsible for operating and maintaining 49 A-10 aircraft with a \$31.5 million annual budget (excluding personnel costs). Frequent simultaneous training operations in the U.S. and combat operations in the Middle East. Recognized for successfully training and supervising the unit during a period of severe personnel imbalances, facility limitations, and resource shortages.

Fighter Squadron Commander, Lakenheath, England, 1993 – 1997. Led 380-person squadron responsible for operating and maintaining 26 F-15E conventional dual-role and nuclear capable aircraft with a \$21 million annual budget (excluding personnel costs). Frequent simultaneous operations in training and combat in four theaters (Europe, northern Iraq, the Balkans, and U.S.). Most successful operational unit in NATO's 1995 Bosnian campaign to end Balkan civil war, Air Force Association Outstanding Squadron-level Unit in the U.S. Air Force, and best fighter maintenance unit in the Air Force for 1996.

U.S. Air Force Officer, 1981 – 2003. Promoted total of five years early through ranks to colonel. Nine years' overseas experience in Europe, Asia, and Middle East.

Publications and Presentations

Forthcoming book from The Catholic University of America Press (fall 2024)
The Political Philosophy of Pierre Manent: Political Form and Human Action

Contributor, *The Catholic Thing* web site, 2009 – present. Recent examples:

“A Face,” January 10, 2021, <https://www.thecatholicthing.org/2021/01/10/a-face/>

“Creation, According to Ratzinger (and a couple of other guys),” November 15, 2020, <https://www.thecatholicthing.org/2020/11/15/creation-according-to-ratzinger-and-a-couple-of-other-guys/>

“The Other Holy Family,” November 29, 2020, <https://www.thecatholicthing.org/2020/11/29/the-other-holy-family/>

Cana Academy Podcast Series, 2018 – present.

Andrew Zwerneman interviews Joseph Wood on “Catholic Political Thought,”
<https://www.canaacademy.org/sources/episode-9-an-interview-with-joe-wood>
Joseph Wood interviews Dean John McCarthy on “Philosophy and the University,”
<https://www.canaacademy.org/sources/episode-10-an-interview-with-john-mccarthy>
Joseph Wood interviews Dr. Bradley Lewis on “The Common Good,”
<https://www.canaacademy.org/sources/episode-11-an-interview-with-bradley-lewis>
Joseph Wood interviews Professor Rémi Brague on “The Ancient-Modern Difference,”
<https://www.canaacademy.org/sources/episode-2-an-interview-with-remi-brague>
Joseph Wood interviews Professor Pierre Manent on “Political Form,”
<https://www.canaacademy.org/sources/episode-1-an-interview-with-pierre-manent>

Institute of World Politics Public Presentations.

“An End to Greatness? The Mysterious Conclusion of Federalist Paper #2,” October 2020.
“The Necessity of Natural Law,” October 2019.
“For me, the truth is... What Relativism Is and Is Not,” February 22, 2018.
“Can alliances be anchored in philosophy?” May 6, 2015.
“Why We Defend America: American Founding Principles and the Western Moral Tradition,” July 13, 2014.
“Virtue in Josef Pieper’s Thinking,” July 8, 2013.
Constitution Day Reflection, September 17, 2013.
Presidents’ Day Reflection, February 18, 2013.

Combat and Classics Podcast on “Pierre Manent, Political Form, and the Poetic Origins of the City,” June 2020.

Panel Commentator on Michael Walsh’s *The Devil’s Pleasure Palace*, Heritage Foundation, Washington D.C., January 28, 2016.

EWTN Television Interviews. Examples:

“Christian Persecution in the Middle East,” August 2015.
“NATO, Russia, and Ukraine,” September 5, 2014.

Articles in journal *The American Interest*.

“Greek to Me,” August 22, 2014.
“Hope on the Searching,” August 10, 2012.
“Retroview: A Countercultural Conservative,” July 1, 2011.

“Vatican-Israeli Relations,” *National Catholic Register*, May 2014.

“Lord, do not send us the pope we deserve,” *ForeignPolicy.com*, February 2013.

Voice of America Television Serbian Service interview series. Examples:

On Kosovo, April 2014.
On Egyptian Unrest, December 2012.
On Iran and Nuclear Ambitions, August 2012.

“Hate Speech Law in Europe and the United States: The Limits of Tolerance for Intolerance,” chapter in *Tolerance and Human Dignity*, ed. Anton Rauscher, (Berlin: Duncker & Humblot, 2011).

The Good Life: Explorations into Culture and Policy, monograph, German Marshall Fund of the United States, March 2010.

“Continuity and Change in American Foreign Policy: An Early Critical Appraisal of President Obama’s Administration,” journal article in *Quaderni di Relazioni Internazionali*, November 2009.

“NATO at 60: An American Perspective,” chapter in *NATO in the 60th Anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty: Challenges and strategic divergences from national perspectives*, ed. Andrea Carati and Carlo Frappi (Milan: ISPI, 2009).

Is Russia Friend or Foe?, monograph, German Marshall Fund of the United States, March 2009.

“Dreams and Nightmares of the Founders and their Children,” journal article in *Oasis*, December 2008.

“President Carter’s Troop Withdrawal from Korea,” chapter in *Security in Korea: War, Stalemate and Negotiation*, ed. Phil Williams, Donald M. Goldstein, and Henry Andrews, Jr. (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1994).

Additional military and civilian posts

- **Special Advisor to the Vice President, The White House, Washington D.C., 2001 – 2003.**
Responsible for policy involving Central and European policy.

- **Speech Writer for the Air Force Chief of Staff, The Pentagon, Washington D.C., 1991 – 1993.**
Principal speechwriter for the Air Force Chief of Staff and Vice Chief.

- Temporary assignments in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Pentagon), the Joint Staff (Pentagon), the U.S. Mission to the Conventional Forces in Europe Talks (Vienna), and Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (Mons, Belgium).

- Various civilian positions in BAE Systems Inc., NASA, RAND Corporation, and the German Marshall Fund of the United States.