

Jonathan Malesic, Ph.D.

[current as of August, 2017]

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2017 Adjunct Lecturer, McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, Ill.
2011-2016 Associate Professor, Department of Theology, King's College, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
2005-2011 Assistant Professor, Department of Theology, King's College.
2004-2005 Visiting Fellow, Center on Religion and Democracy / Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia.
2000-2002 Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religion, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va.

EDUCATION

- 2004 Ph.D. in Religious Studies, University of Virginia.
2002 M.A. in Religious Studies, University of Virginia.
1997 B.A. in Religion and Physics, minor in English, *summa cum laude*, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

PUBLICATIONS

Book

- 2009 *Secret Faith in the Public Square: An Argument for the Concealment of Christian Identity*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos.
Gold medal, religion category, 2009 *ForeWord Reviews* Book of the Year Awards.

Peer-reviewed articles and chapters

- 2017 "Henry David Thoreau's Anti-Work Spirituality and a New Theological Ethic of Work." *Journal of Religious Ethics* 45: 309-29.
- 2016 "A Kenotic Struggle for Dignity: Booker T. Washington's Theology of Work." *Journal of Religious Ethics* 44: 403-24.
- 2015 "'Nothing is to Be Preferred to the Work of God': Cultivating Monastic Detachment for a Postindustrial Work Ethic." *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 35: 45-61.
- 2014 "Teaching Søren Kierkegaard's *Fear and Trembling*." *Teaching Theology and Religion* 17: 167-68.
- 2013 "The Paralyzing Instant: Shifting Vocabularies of Time and Ethics in *Fear and Trembling*." *Journal of Religious Ethics* 41: 209-32.

- 2009 “Is There a Light Under That Bushel? Hidden Christian Identity in *Wise Blood* and *The Moviegoer*.” *Catholic Identity and the Laity*. College Theology Society Annual Volume 54. Ed. Tim Muldoon. Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis. 107-19.
- 2007 “Illusion and Offense in *Philosophical Fragments*: Kierkegaard’s Inversion of Feuerbach’s Critique of Christianity.” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 62: 43-55.
- 2006 “A Secret both Sinister and Salvific: Secrecy and Normativity in Light of Kierkegaard’s *Fear and Trembling*.” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 74: 446-68.

Encyclopedia articles

- 2010 “Augustine’s *Confessions*,” “Birth and Childhood in Augustine’s *Confessions*,” “Love in Augustine’s *Confessions*,” “Religion in Augustine’s *Confessions*.” *Encyclopedia of Themes in Literature*. Ed. Jennifer McClinton-Temple. New York: Facts on File.

Book reviews

- 2017 “The Rich We Will Always Have with Us,” review of *The Wealth of Humans*, by Ryan Avent and *The Broken Ladder*, by Keith Payne. *America*, May 15, 50-52.
- 2016 “From Gown to Town,” review of *There Is Life After College*, by Jeffrey J. Selingo. *America*, October 31, 34-35.
- 2016 Review of *Self and Soul: A Defense of Ideals*, by Mark Edmundson. *Expositions* 10.1: 99-106.
- 2015 Review of *Excursions with Kierkegaard: Others, Goods, Death, and Final Faith*, by Edward F. Mooney. *Horizons*, 42: 205-207.
- 2015 Review of *Blaise Pascal on Deception, Sin, and the Fall: The Secret Instinct*, by William Wood. *Journal of Religion*, 95: 269-70.
- 2013 Review of *Kant and Kierkegaard on Time and Eternity*, by Ronald M. Green. *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, 73: 157-60.
- 2012 Review of *Catholicism in Social and Historical Contexts: An Introduction*, by Curt Cadorette. *The Living Church* 245 (Oct. 7): 25.
- 2011 Review of *Behaving in Public: How to Do Christian Ethics*, by Nigel Biggar. *Journal of Church and State*, 53: 664-66.
- 2010 Review of *Strange Wonder: The Closure of Metaphysics and the Opening of Awe*, by Mary-Jane Rubenstein. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 78: 852-55.

2007 Review of *Kierkegaard and Socrates: A Study in Philosophy and Faith*, by Jacob Howland. *Modern Theology* 23: 492-95.

2003 Review of *Christian Contradictions: The Structures of Lutheran and Catholic Thought*, by Daphne Hampson. *Pro Ecclesia* 12: 362-64.

Work in preparation

In preparation *Against Work: Why We Need to Kill the Work Ethic If We Want to Live the Good Life*. Book manuscript. Expected completion date: 2018.

Essays (selected)

2017 “The Costs of a Calling,” *Inside Higher Ed* (online), May 12. <<https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2017/05/12/duke-divinity-email-fracas-and-perils-seeing-academic-work-vocation-essay>>

2017 “Douthat’s Wager: Go to Church, Even if You Don’t Believe,” *Religion Dispatches* (online), April 18. <<http://religiondispatches.org/douthats-wager-go-to-church-even-if-you-dont-believe/>>

2017 “Searching for George W. Bush in His Portraits of the Soldiers He Sent to War,” *America*, April 3, 48-49.

2017 “America Must Divorce Dignity from Work,” *The New Republic* (online), March 28. <<https://newrepublic.com/article/141664/america-must-divorce-dignity-work>>

2017 “Right-Wing Suspicion of Experts is Martin Luther’s Fault,” *Religion Dispatches* (online), January 10. <<http://religiondispatches.org/suspicion-of-experts-on-the-right-is-martin-luthers-fault/>>

2016 “The 40-Year-Old Burnout,” *Chronicle of Higher Education*, October 28, A30-31.

2016 “When Being ‘Christian’ Means Supporting Trump: An Argument for Hiding Your Faith,” *Religion Dispatches* (online), October 19. <<http://religiondispatches.org/when-being-christian-means-supporting-trump-an-argument-for-hiding-your-faith/>>

2016 “Field of Vision,” review of “Last Chance U” and “A Season with Florida State Football,” *America*, October 17, 29-32.

2016 “Clinton Is Wrong. You Shouldn’t Have to Work to Have a Place in America,” *The Washington Post* (online), October 13. <<https://www.washingtonpost.com/posteverything/wp/2016/10/13/clinton-is-wrong-you-shouldnt-have-to-work-to-have-a-place-in-america/>>

- 2016 “Labor in Today’s Vineyard: Why We Need a New Theology of Work,” *America*, September 12, 20-23.
- 2016 “Don’t Hate Twitter Because of Trump,” *The New Republic* (online), August 4. <<http://newrepublic.com/article/135804/dont-hate-twitter-trump>>
- 2016 “Alternate Reality: The Dystopian World of ‘The Man in the High Castle,’” *America*, February 1, 32-33.
- 2016 “Reconsidering Booker T. Washington in the Age of Amazon.” *The Wilson Quarterly*, Winter. <<http://wilsonquarterly.com/stories/reconsidering-booker-t-washington-in-the-age-of-amazon/>>
- 2015 “Thoreau’s Radical Optimism.” *The New Republic* (online), Oct. 19. <<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/123151/defense-thoreau>>
- 2015 “America Wants You to Feel Ashamed About Procrastinating. Don’t.” *The New Republic* (online), Sept. 7. <<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/122730/america-wants-you-feel-ashamed-about-procrastinating-dont>>
- 2015 “Taking Sin Seriously: The Theology of Louis C.K.” *America*, August 17, 37-39.
- 2015 “I Had ‘The Least Meaningful Job in America’ – And I loved It.” *The New Republic* (online), July 23. <<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/122358/i-had-least-meaningful-job-america-and-i-loved-it>>
- 2015 “Robots Might Save the Humanities.” *The New Republic* (online), July 6. <<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/122248/robots-might-save-humanities>>
- 2015 “Don’t Search for ‘Purpose.’ You Will Fail.” *The New Republic* (online), May 28. <<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/121915/dont-search-purpose-you-will-fail>>
- 2014 “Student Evaluations Aren’t Useless. They’re Just Poorly Used.” *Chronicle of Higher Education*, The Conversation blog, May 7. <<http://chronicle.com/blogs/conversation/2014/05/07/student-evaluations-arent-useless-theyre-just-poorly-used/>>
- 2014 “American Christianity between Power and Persecution: An Introduction.” *Christianity in the Public Square: Literatures of Politics, Protest and Social Justice*. Proceedings of the 2012 Northeast Regional Conference on Christianity & Literature. Ed. Anthony R. Grasso, C.S.C. N.p.: Lulu.
- 2013 “College Should Be an Intellectual Workout.” *Liberal Education* 99.3 (Summer): 58-60.

- 2013 “A Catholic Case against MOOCs.” *Chronicle of Higher Education* Sept. 16, A64.
- 2013 “Textual Detective Work.” *Teaching Theology and Religion* 16: 247.
- 2011 “Why Politicians Should Keep Their Faith Hidden.” Australian Broadcasting Company Religion and Ethics blog, Oct. 20.
<<http://www.abc.net.au/religion/articles/2011/10/20/3016389.htm>>
- 2010 “Touchdown Jesus: On the Wages of Discipleship in America.” @ *This Point: Theological Investigations in Church and Culture* 5.
<<http://www.atthispoint.net/articles/touchdown-jesus-on-the-wages-of-discipleship-in-america/210/>>
- 2010 “Surreponse to Hunter Baker.” *Journal of Markets and Morality* 13: 361-65.
- 2010 “Is Some Form of Secularism the Best Foundation for Christian Engagement in Public Life?” *Journal of Markets and Morality* 13: 347-353.
- 2009 “Parsing Academic Theology and Religious Studies.” Letter to the editor, *The Chronicle Review* Sept. 7.
- 2009 “A Scholarly Book and a 4-4 Teaching Load.” *Chronicle of Higher Education* Mar. 2.
- 2006 “How Dumb Do They Think We Are?” *Chronicle of Higher Education* Dec. 15. Reprinted in *Writing from Sources*, 8 ed. Ed. Brenda Spatt. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2010. 85-87.
Reprinted as “Plagiarism is the Result of Students who are Unwilling to Learn.” *Plagiarism*. Ed. Heidi Williams. Detroit: Greenhaven Press, 2008. 46-49.
- 2005 “The Smell of Indoctrination in the Morning.” *Chronicle of Higher Education* Oct. 21.
Reprinted in *Western News* (Univ. of Western Ontario) Nov. 17, 2005.
- 2005 “At Your Leisure.” *chronicle.com* Mar. 23.
- 2004 “The Goofy Job Search.” *Chronicle of Higher Education* Nov. 3.

GRANTS

- 2012-2013 Louisville Institute Sabbatical Grant for Researchers, “Why Work: A Theological Work Ethic for Post-Industrial, Post-Protestant America.” \$39,996.
- 2011-2012 NEH Enduring Questions Course on the Value of Work. \$24,920.

- 2010-2011 King's College CELT Innovation in Teaching Grant, "Information Literacy in a Core Moral Theology Course." With Calida Barboza. \$500.
- 2009-2010 King's College Shoal Center Departmental Civic Engagement Grant, "TILE Community Garden Program." With Garrett Barr, Bridget Costello, and Jeramia Ory. \$5000.
- 2007 King's College Summer Research Grant. \$4400.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2016 Collegeville Institute workshop, "A Broader Public: Writing on Religion for the Online Audience."
- 2009 Gold medal, religion category, *ForeWord* Book of the Year Awards, for *Secret Faith in the Public Square*.
- 2002 Mellon Dissertation Seminar Fellowship.
- 2000 Seven Society Award for Outstanding Graduate Teaching, semi-finalist, U.Va.
- 1997-2000 Presidential Fellowship, U.Va.
- 1997 President's Award, CUA's highest award given to an undergraduate.
- 1997 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship, semi-finalist.
- Delta Epsilon Sigma, Theta Alpha Kappa, Phi Sigma Tau honor societies (inducted as faculty).
- Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, Sigma Pi Sigma, Phi Eta Sigma honor societies (inducted as undergraduate).

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND INTERVIEWS

- 2017 "Why You Hate Your Job," Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture Tavern Series, February 13.
- 2016 Radio interview, "America This Week," SiriusXM, August 31.
- 2015 "Finding Meaning in Our Work," Teaching in Higher Ed podcast #54, June 25. <<http://teachinginhigherred.com/podcast/finding-meaning-in-our-work/>>
- 2014 "Nothing Should Be Preferred to the Work of God: Cultivating Monastic Detachment for a Postindustrial Work Ethic," University of Portland Theology Department, March 3.
- 2014 "A Catholic Case against MOOCs: Social Ethics, Care for the Person, and Online Education," Hersher Institute for Applied Ethics, Sacred Heart University, January 27.
- 2009 "Dispatches from the First Year and Beyond," Lilly-East Conference on College and University Teaching, University of Delaware, April 16.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2016 “Dignity and Work in the Second Machine Age,” The New Story of Work conference, Pacific School of Religion, April 15-16.
- 2015 “‘We have adopted Christianity merely as an improved means of *agri-culture*’: How Thoreau’s Antiwork Askesis Can Inform a New Theological Ethic of Work,” College Theology Society Annual Convention, May 28-31.
- 2015 “How Thoreau’s Antiwork Askesis Can Inform a New Theological Ethic of Work,” Religion and Labor: Moral Vision from/for the Grassroots conference, Syracuse University & Le Moyne College, April 10-11.
- 2014 “Could We Educate the Whole Person Online? Catholic Pedagogical Principles and Online Education,” The Idea of a Catholic College conference, King’s College, September 19-20.
- 2014 “‘Nothing is to Be Preferred to the Work of God’: Cultivating Monastic Detachment for a Postindustrial Work Ethic,” Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, January 9-12.
- 2013 “Emancipating Labor from Jim Crow and Neoliberalism: Reassessing Booker T. Washington’s Christian Work Ethic for the Postindustrial Era,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 23-26.
- 2013 “Theology as a Vocation in a Bad Job Market,” Mid-Atlantic Region of the AAR Annual Meeting, March 13-15.
- 2012 “Why Work? How to Teach Careerist Undergraduates about Work’s Spiritual and Moral Value,” College Theology Society Annual Convention, May 31-June 3.
- 2010 “Secrecy or Martyrdom: The Options for Bourgeois Discipleship in Kierkegaard and Bonhoeffer,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, October 30-November 1.
- 2009 “Bound by the Word: Reason Across Time in the Story of Abraham and Isaac,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 7-10.
- 2008 “Is There a Light Under That Bushel? Hidden Discipleship in *Wise Blood* and *The Moviegoer*,” College Theology Society Annual Convention, May 30-June 3.
- 2006 “Bonhoeffer’s ‘Secret Discipline’: The Duty to Conceal Christian Identity in Public Life,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 18-21.
- 2006 “The Secret that Saves Christianity from Christendom: Cyril of Jerusalem’s Discipline of the Secret,” College Theology Society Annual Convention.

- 2006 “Forgive Us Our Debts: Three Theological Approaches to Personal Financial Debt,” Midwestern Region of the AAR Annual Meeting.
- 2006 “Illusion and Offense in *Philosophical Fragments*: Kierkegaard’s Relation to Feuerbach Reconsidered,” Mid-Atlantic Region of the AAR Annual Meeting.

CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

- 2015 “Using Twitter for Research and Teaching,” with Adam Balczunas, King’s College Technology for Teaching Day, May 12.
- 2014 “Saving (and Sharing) that A-Ha! Moment: Mobile Apps for Teaching and Research,” King’s College Technology for Teaching Day, May 13.
- 2014 “How I learned to Stop Marking Papers and Start Responding to Student Writers,” King’s College writing across the curriculum workshop, April 9.
- 2014 “Education as a Work of Resurrection,” King’s College Delta Epsilon Sigma honor society induction ceremony, March 24.
- 2014 “Why Do You Do What You Do? Academic Jobs, Careers, Vocations, and Lives,” King’s College Faculty Development Day, January 10.
- 2013 “Laboring under Jim Crow and Neoliberalism: A Reassessment of Booker T. Washington’s Christian Work Ethic,” King’s College McGowan Center for Ethics and Social Responsibility, September 5.
- 2012 “Peer Observation of Teaching,” King’s College Faculty Development Day, January 13.
- 2011 “Information Literacy in a Core Moral Theology Course,” with Calida Barboza, King’s College Faculty Development Day, January 14.
- 2008 “Why Christians Must Conceal Their Religious Identity in American Public Life,” King’s College Public Policy and Social Research Institute, March 12.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

McCormick Theological Seminary

Theology of Work (D.Min. program), Summer 2017.

King’s College

Issues in Christian Social Ethics (core curriculum), Spring 2016.

Theology of Work / Why Work? (core curriculum), Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2016.

History of Christian Thought since 1500 (majors seminar), Spring 2015.
Belief and Unbelief (core curriculum, majors seminar), Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Spring 2014, Fall 2014.
Theology and Public Life (majors seminar), Fall 2013.
History of Christian Thought (majors seminar), Spring 2010, Spring 2012, Fall 2013.
Who is Jesus? (core curriculum), Spring 2009, Fall 2009, Spring 2011, Fall 2011.
Faith, Morality, and the Person (core curriculum), Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Fall 2010.
Research Seminar in Theology (independent study), Fall 2009, Fall 2010.
Theology and Nature (core curriculum, learning community), Spring 2010.
Madmen and Evildoers (liberal arts seminar), Fall 2008, Spring 2009.
The Christian Theological Tradition (honors program), Spring 2007, Fall 2008.
Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Theology (majors seminar), Spring 2008.
Science, Theology, and Culture (core curriculum), Spring 2006, Spring 2007.
Protestant Christianity (independent study), Spring 2007.
Spiritual Autobiography (majors seminar, co-taught with Jennifer McClinton-Temple, English), Fall 2006.
Catholic Perspectives (core curriculum), Fall 2005.

James Madison University

God, Meaning, and Morality, Summer 2000, Summer 2001, Summer 2002.

University of Virginia

Faith and Doubt in the Modern Age, Fall 1998, Fall 2001. (As teaching assistant)
Theology, Ethics, and Medicine, Summer 2000. (Co-taught)
Religious Ethics and Moral Problems, Spring 1999, Spring 2000. (As teaching assistant)
Theology, Ethics, and Medicine, Fall 1999. (As teaching assistant)

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

2012-2016 Manuscript referee, *Journal of Religious Ethics* (7 mss.).
2014-2016 Manuscript referee, *Sophia* (4 mss.).
2015 External reviewer for tenure case, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.
2013 Grant reviewer, NEH Enduring Questions Grant Program.
2013 Manuscript referee, *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*.
2012 Manuscript referee, *Modern Theology*.
2010-2012 Manuscript referee, College Theology Society Annual Volume.
2009-2012 Convener for Art, Literature, and Religion Section, College Theology Society.
2011 Grant reviewer, NEH Enduring Questions Grant Program.
2011 Manuscript referee, *Journal of Markets and Morality*.
2006 Manuscript referee, Rowman and Littlefield Publishing Group.
2005-2006 Manuscript referee, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (2 mss.).

SERVICE TO KING'S COLLEGE

2011-2015 Director, Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT).

2012-2015 Assurance of Learning (Assessment) Committee.
2013-2015 Chair / Co-chair, Core Curriculum Review Committee.
2013-2015 Online Education Working Group.
2011-2012 Middle States Accreditation Self-Study Steering Committee.
2011-2012 Theology Department Search Committee.
2010-2012 Curriculum and Teaching Committee.
2007-2009 Curriculum and Teaching Committee.
2006-2011 Catholic Identity and Mission Committee. Co-chair, 2008-2011.
2008-2011 TILE Program (academic learning communities) working group.
2008-2009 Theology Department Search Committee.
2007-2009 Moreau Lectures Committee.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2017-present Association of Writers and Writing Programs.
1997-2015 American Academy of Religion.
2014-2015 Catholic Theological Society of America.
2011-2015 Society of Christian Ethics.
2011-2015 POD Network.
2006-2015 College Theology Society.