

# CURRICULUM VITAE

John R. Mortensen, PhD, STD

*Aquinas Institute*

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*Curriculum vitae* as of January 28, 2024

## CURRENT POSITION

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2016 – present    President  
*Aquinas Institute for the Study of Sacred Doctrine*

## EDUCATION

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2018–2023    Pontificia Università della Santa Croce, Rome, Italy  
DOCTORATE IN SACRED THEOLOGY, June 2023, *Summa cum Laude*  
Director: Rev. Prof. Robert Gahl

2005–2006    Pontificia Università della Santa Croce, Rome, Italy  
DOCTORATE IN PHILOSOPHY, June 2006, *Summa cum Laude*  
Thesis: *Understanding St. Thomas on Analogy*  
Winner of the Award of the Pontifical Academies, January 2010  
Director: Fr. Stephen L. Brock

2004–2005    Pontificia Università della Santa Croce, Rome, Italy  
LICENTIATE IN PHILOSOPHY, September 2005, *Summa cum Laude*  
Thesis: *Analogy in the Summa Theologiae of St. Thomas Aquinas*  
Director: Fr. Stephen L. Brock  
Lectio Coram: *Scripture as the source of Augustine's philosophy*

2001–2004    Pontificia Università della Santa Croce, Rome, Italy  
DOCTORAL CANDIDATE IN SACRED THEOLOGY  
Completed coursework and received approval for dissertation. Transferred to the Philosophy department in order to pursue a Doctorate in Philosophy.  
Dissertation proposal: *Trinitarian analogies*  
Director: Rev. Prof. José M. Galvan

1999–2001    International Theological Institute, Gaming, Austria  
SACRED THEOLOGY LICENTIATE, May 2001, *Summa cum Laude*  
Thesis: *On the beauty of Christ in the Doctors of the Church*  
Director: Fr. John Seward

Lectio Coram: *On the importance of understanding first principles*

1997–1999 International Theological Institute, Gaming, Austria  
SACRED THEOLOGY BACCALAUREATE, May 1999, *Magna cum Laude*

1993–1997 Thomas Aquinas College, Santa Paula, CA  
BACHELOR OF LIBERAL ARTS, June 1997  
Thesis: *On the Intrinsic Impossibility of Corporeal Multilocation*

## DISSERTATION IN THEOLOGY

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**Title:** The Definition and Division of Divine Filiation in the Writings of St. Thomas Aquinas

**Abstract:** *The concept of Divine Filiation applies not only to the adoptive filiation that St. Paul speaks about, and that has been so often written about through the ages since. In fact, St. Thomas outlines five ways in which God is called Father in Sacred Scripture. This thesis traces the relationships between these five modes of God's fatherhood, defining each in turn. What we find in the end is the whole of creation subsumed into the inner life of the Trinity through the Son, with the preparation for the Incarnation of Christ and our adoptive sonship seminally present at every level.*

**Director:** Fr. Robert Gahl

## DISSERTATION IN PHILOSOPHY

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**Title:** Understanding St. Thomas on Analogy

**Abstract:** *The analogy of names is not one of those topics that is important because it is a grand conclusion to intensive philosophical or theological research. Rather, analogy is important because it stands, explicitly or implicitly, at the very beginning of all work in philosophy and theology. For centuries, the thoughts of St. Thomas on analogy, which are found in texts scattered throughout his works, were considered to have been aptly grouped and articulated by Cardinal Cajetan. Most works on analogy in Aquinas since the time of Cajetan merely repeat what Cajetan said. This book approaches the question afresh, returning to the works of St. Thomas in order to find what he thought was the fundamental meaning of the word 'analogy.' Not only are several misconceptions about analogy cleared up, but a description is given of the way that God is first in our thoughts, as well as in reality.*

**Director:** Fr. Stephen Brock

**Award:** This dissertation won the 2009 Prize of the Pontifical Academies.

## TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

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2023–present PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY  
International Theological Institute  
Trumau, Austria

- 2020–2022 VISITING PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY  
Wyoming Catholic College  
Lander, Wyoming, U.S.A.
- 2016–present AQUINAS INSTITUTE, INC.  
President, Director of Fundraising and Admissions  
Started an online Liberal Arts and Graduate Theology School
- 2016–2020 VISITING FACULTY MEMBER  
The Augustine Institute  
Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.
- 2008–2016 THE AQUINAS INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF SACRED DOCTRINE  
President, Faculty member, Founding Board member  
Raised \$750,000 for the *Thomas Aquinas Opera Omnia* series
- 2007–2017 ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY  
Wyoming Catholic College  
Lander, Wyoming, U.S.A.
- 2002–2007 ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY  
The International Theological Institute for Studies on Marriage and  
the Family, Gaming, Austria

## **OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE**

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- 2014–2016 WYOMING CATHOLIC COLLEGE  
306 MAIN ST, LANDER, WY, USA  
Academic Dean
- 2009–2012 MORTENSEN-PERRYMAN CONSTRUCTION  
4190 N COLUMBINE ST, BOISE, ID, USA  
President and Developer of Real Estate
- 2007–2016 WYOMING CATHOLIC COLLEGE  
306 MAIN ST, LANDER, WY, USA  
Director of Finance and Administration  
Academic Council member  
Board member
- 2004–2007 INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
Vice President of Administration  
Finance Committee member  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees
- 2002–2003 INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
Director of Finance  
Admissions Committee member
- 1998–2001 INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
Teaching Assistant  
Director of Computer Operations

1993–1998

QUARTERDECK SOFTWARE, BAXTER-NEWELL INSURANCE  
Software Engineer, Network Administrator

## **COURSES DESIGNED AND TAUGHT – PHILOSOPHY**

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### **Philosophy**

- Logic and Argumentation
- Natural Philosophy
- Christian Anthropology
- Ethics
- Business Ethics
- Metaphysics

## **COURSES DESIGNED AND TAUGHT – THEOLOGY**

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### **Theology**

- Introduction to Scripture
- Faith and Reason
- Existence and Attributes of God
- Creation and Providence
- Mystery of the Trinity I
- Mystery of the Trinity II
- The Fall and Redemption
- The Incarnation
- The Sacraments
- Imago Dei
- Perfection in Charity
- Introduction to the Devout Life
- Christian States of Life
- The Carmelite Mystics
- On the Angels
- On the Letter to the Romans
- The Gospel of John
- Aquinas on Scripture

## **SELECTION OF TALKS AND PUBLICATIONS**

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### **Talks**

- ON THE PRESENCE OF GOD, St. Anthony Parish, Casper Wyoming (2008)
- THE EUCHARIST AND THE COMMON GOOD, University of Notre Dame (2009)
- FRIENDSHIP WITH AQUINAS, Pontifical Academies (2010)
- TRINITY IN AQUINAS, International Theological Institute (2010)
- JUSTICE AND MERCY IN THOMAS AQUINAS, University of Notre Dame (2012)
- THE SPIRITUAL LIFE, Wyoming Men's Retreat (2012)
- THE BEAUTY AND GOOD OF THE FAMILY, Bishop Paul Etienne Conference (2013)
- CLASSICAL EDUCATION, Legatus (2016)
- AQUINAS AND DANTE, LaCrosse Men's Colloquium (2017)
- QUEEN OF HEAVEN, National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help (2017)
- CHASTITY, CHIVALRY, AND CULTURE, Green Bay Colloquium (2019)

### **Aquinas Institute Publications**

#### **AQUINAS: 32 Volumes in Print, 28 Total Forthcoming**

- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUMES 37-41: *Commentary on the Letters of St. Paul* (2012)
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUMES 13-22: *Summa Theologiae* (2012)
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUMES 33-36: *Gospel Commentaries* (2013)
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUMES 32: *Commentary on Job* (2016)
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUME 55: *Opuscula I* (2018)
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUMES 7-10: *Commentary on IV Sentences* (2018)
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUMES 11-12: *Summa Contra Gentiles* (2019)
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUMES 50-51: *Commentary on Metaphysics* (2020)
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUME 30: *Commentary on Psalms* (2023)
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUME 31: *Commentary on Isaiah* (2023)
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUME 32: *Commentary on Jeremiah* (2023)
- THOMAS AQUINAS, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUMES 3-6: *Commentary on I & II Sentences* (Forthcoming, 2024)

#### **AUGUSTINE: 50 Total Forthcoming**

- AUGUSTINE, *OPERA OMNIA*, VOLUME 1: *Confessions* (2023)