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Worcester, Massachusetts 01609-1326

My Teaching Objectives

My vocational objectives come from Assumption University's mission to the world we live in. Violent climactic changes, global warfare, political dysfunction and a pandemic besides glaringly reveal a world whose population vastly comprises the economically deprived, the millions emigrating by force and by terror, the starving, the billions crushed beneath social and political structures that privilege a few and ignore the lot of most. And in our nation millions are bludgeoned by racism, choked by institutionalized prejudice and overlooked by the selfishly self-satisfied. History makes plain that in times of crisis like ours, the poor, the marginalized and those most socially vulnerable are the ones who pay the highest price for living. We could stand to be crushed by the weight of these world realities.

As we face these crises, Pope Francis challenges us to actualize the specific mission of academic institutions like Assumption University:

We are all living in an information-driven society which bombards us indiscriminately with data – all treated as being of equal importance – and which leads to remarkable superficiality in the area of moral discernment. In response, we need to provide an education which teaches critical thinking and encourages the development of mature moral values. (*Evangelii gaudium*, 64)

Our actions must speak louder than our words to prove our conviction that the God of life, source of our hope, journeys with us to promote human flourishing for everyone. If we faculty members fail to take charge of reality at times like this, we must wonder then why we would mentor and teach our students merely to find their way to professional success in a world that continues to wreck the lives of billions of sisters and brothers.

Inspired by the Assumptionist conviction grounded in Saint Augustine's love of Wisdom, we entrust ourselves to the innate capacity of the mind and of the heart to reach out toward God and to one another, because we believe that the human mind is grounded in God's own Logos and the human heart in God's own Spirit. This is the faith that establishes Assumption University's highest hope for our world, realizable through the liberal pursuit of the arts and sciences.

Ultimately, an Assumption education teaches us to educate ourselves throughout our lives, inspires us to delight in the pursuit of all that is good, true and beautiful, and that challenges us to be effectively and compassionately engaged with our fellow human beings, who might otherwise never have a chance to enjoy the good life that could actually pervade the whole planet.

As a teacher I strive to be a "professor," one who lives from what I teach and learns from whom I teach. I persistently hope to enable my students to enjoy life as much as I do and to find God as its still-point. My greatest wish, then, is to inspire my students to discover themselves through that pursuit of the good, the true, and the beautiful that lodge within themselves, and ultimately to contemplate the unity of these three in God's own self. My hope then is to inspire students to engage their voices in the great humanistic conversation that has been going on for thousands of years within and beyond the Christian tradition of liberal arts and sciences.

My wanting to help students experience the joy of living and thinking attracts me especially to the majority of them who for one reason or another find themselves disassociated from religion and drifting along the edges of faith. They find religious practice irrelevant in the frenetic pace of their everyday lives; or they are ambivalently associated with religion as sons and daughters of parents who no longer belong to any religious affiliation; or they feel deeply wounded from broken homes where they no longer feel at home; or they feel disenfranchised from their religious communities where they or their friends feel belittled or disparaged for their sexual or gender identities. Theology cannot be made to float theoretically and nebulously above students' human situations. For me the only really meaningful "God-talk" (*theos + logos = theologia*) needs to stir within the actual lives and experience of students.

The Assumptionist motto emerges from the Lord's Prayer: *Adveniat regnum tuum* - ART: "Your Kingdom come!" The Reign of God is present only where the men and women of this world relinquish the selfish pursuit of themselves and allow themselves to be loved by the God by whom they exist. Assumption University commits itself ultimately to promote the full humanity of every person, until the courageous, unabashed humanity of someone like Jesus Christ becomes the driving thrust of their lives, . . . until Christ be formed in them.

Education:

Graduate Studies:

S.T.D., *summa cum laude*, "Deep Is Calling on Deep: The Mystagogy of Augustine's *Confessions* And His *Homilies on the Gospel of John*," Pontificium Athenaeum S. Anselmi de Urbe, [Rome] 2020

Diploma, *magna cum laude*, Theology and Patristic Studies, Institutum Augustinianum Patristicum, Rome, 1991-92

S.T.L., *magna cum laude*, "Images of Illumination in Augustine's *Tractatus in Iohannis Euangelium* 1-54," Institutum Augustinianum Patristicum, Rome, 1988-92

M.A., In Theological Studies, Boston College, 1978.

Joint Doctoral Program, Boston College and Andover Newton Theological School, 1972-74

M.Div., with distinction, Weston School of Theology, 1969-72

Post A.B. Studies

Latin, Gregorianum, Rome, 1988-92

Greek, Greek and Latin Summer Institute, Brooklyn College and New York City University, summer 1989

Latin, Greek and Latin Summer Institute, Brooklyn College and New York City University, summer 1988

Greek, Harvard University, summer 1970

College Studies

A.B., *magna cum laude*, Assumption College, Worcester, Massachusetts, 1967-69

(Major: philosophy)

(Assumptionist Novitiate, 1966-67)

Assumption College, Worcester, Massachusetts, 1965-66

Our Lady of Lourdes Seminary, Cassadaga, New York, 1964-65

High School

Our Lady of Lourdes Seminary, Cassadaga, New York, 1960-62

Assumption Preparatory School, Worcester, Massachusetts, 1958-60

Academic Awards

Dean's List, Assumption College

Memberships:

North American Patristic Society

College Theology Society

Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality

Faculty Engagement, Department of Theology, Assumption College

Committee member for writing the Mission Statement for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, fall 2019 - present

D'Alzon Faculty Colloquium, 2019 - present

Faculty Senate, spring 2016 - spring 2018

Presenter, Assumption Day, January 2014

Tagaste Linkage with Dr. Bryan Carella, "The Arts of Reading and Writing," 2014-16

SOPHIA Planning Committee, 2012-13

Presenter, "The Articulations of the David Story in 1 and 2 Samuel," Assumption College Faculty Colloquium, May 2012.

Tagaste Linkage with Dr. Nalin Ranasinghe, "God, Man and Evil," 2011-13

Presenter, "The Once and Future Self: Memory in Saint Augustine's *Confessions*," Assumption College, April, 2011.

Tagaste Linkage with Dr. Nalin Ranasinghe, "Athens and Jerusalem," 2009-11

Search Committee for Position in Theology, fall 2008 - winter 2009

Search Committee for Interim Position in Classics, fall 2008 - winter 2009

Academic Council, 2008-12

Chair of Theology Department, 2008-12
D'Alzon Faculty Reading Group, fall 2008 - spring 2013
Advising during the First Year Student Summer Orientation, 2007 - present; taught
Model Classes a number of times
Core Curriculum Revision Committee(s), fall 2007-10
Visiting Assistant Professor of Theology, 2006 to the present
Lecturer in Theology, 2004-05
Acting Chair, Department of Theology, spring 1997 - 2000
Academic Council, spring 1997 - 2000
Graduate School Council, spring 1997 - 2000
Faculty Senate, spring 1996 - spring - 1997
D'Alzon Lecture Committee, summer 1996-2000
Provost Search Committee, 1995
Faculty Senate, spring 1994 - spring 1995
Programs Task Force for the Academic Planning Process, 1994-95
Advising during the First Year Student Summer Orientation, 1993 - 2003
College Conduct Board, 1993-95
Graduate Examination Boards for M.A. Students in Theology, 1993 - 2000
Assistant Professor of Theology, 1992-2000
Lecturer in Religious Studies, fall 1980; fall 1982
Lecturer in Religious Studies, fall 1977; spring 1978
Lecturer in Religious Studies, fall 1974 - spring 76

Courses Taught at Assumption University Since 1992

THE 100: Introduction to Theology, fall 2015 - present
THE 100: The Bible, spring 1993 - spring 2015
THE 150: The Problem of God, spring 2018 - present
THE 203: The Early Church, fall 1992 - present
THE 207: Christ, Yesterday and Today, 1995 - present (once listed as THE 332)
THE 333: The Mystery of the Church, 1994 - present
THE 391: Theology of Liturgy (Special Topics), spring 2016
THE 391: The Intellectual and Cultural Life of the Early Christians (Special Topics),
spring 2008

THE 391: Saint Augustine (Special Topics), spring 2007
THE 391: The Nature of Theology (Special Topics), fall 1993 and fall 1998
THE 392: Senior Seminar: Looking Along the Inklings, spring 1997
THE 392: Seminar: C.S. Lewis, spring 1994
THE 450: Senior Seminar, Spring 2016
THE 499: Sacramental Theology (Special Topics), fall 1996
THE 499: The Biblical Hermeneutics of Saint Augustine (Special Topics), fall 1994
THE 538: The Church (Graduate Course), fall 1994
THE 540: Early Church History (Directed, Graduate Course), fall 1993
THE 557: Sacramental Theology (Graduate Course), fall 1996

Other Ministries and Service at Assumption Since 1992

Liturgy Committee, Campus Ministry, 2013 - present
Tinsley Campus Ministry Center Dedication Committee, fall 2011- spring 2018
Living and Learning Center Interest Circle, Faculty Mentor, fall 2011- spring 2018
“Minister in Residence” in the Living and Learning Center, fall 2011- spring 2018
Assisted in the International Catholic Biblical Association’s Annual Meeting held at Assumption College, August 2011
Tinsley Campus Ministry Center Building Committee, 2008-12
Assisting in Campus Ministry’s Retreat Programs, 2007- present
Founders’ Hall Renovation Committee, December 2007 - summer 2008
Campus Ministry Search Committee, spring 2007
Campus Ministry Liturgy Committee, 2006 - present
Campus Ministry Chapel Renovation Committee, 2003-05
Member of the Assumption College Board of Trustees, 2005-06
D’Alzon Endowed Chair Committee, fall 1996-2001
Assistant Director of Student Activities Search Committee, summer 1993
Chair, Task Force for the Examination of Assumptionist Presence at Assumption College, August 1996-98
Collaboration with Campus Ministry, Assumption College, especially with Chapel liturgical environment, 1992 to the present
Director of Campus Ministry, Assumption College, 1981-88 (Position renamed Dean of Campus Ministry and Vice-President for Religious Affairs)
Campus Minister, Assumption College, 1979-81
Part-time Campus Minister, Assumption College, 1974-76

Conferences and Publications

- “Heart to Heart: the Self-Transcending Soul’s Desire for the Transcendent.” In Predrag Cicovacki, ed. *The Human Soul: Essays in Honor of Nalin Ranasinghe*. Wilmington, DE: Vernon Press, 2021. 21-40.
- “The Once and Future Self: Memory in Saint Augustine’s *Confessions*.” In Glenn Arbery, ed. *So Ancient and So New: St. Augustine’s Confessions and Its Influences*. South Bend, IN: Saint Augustine’s Press, 2019. 29-46.
- Presenter, “Saint Augustin et l’intériorité,” Montmartre Canadien, Québec, P.Q., Fall, 2018.
- “Confessions of a Teacher,” [In Eloise Knowlton, ed.] *Teaching After d’Alzon: Essays on Education Today*. New London, CT: Twenty Third Publications, 2011. 8-27.
- “An Essay on *Madame Bovary*, by Gustave Flaubert (1856-57),” In Dawn Thistle, ed. *An Assumption Library: Essays Presented in Celebration of the 29th Anniversary of the Emmanuel D’Alzon Library*. Worcester, MA: Assumption College, 2008, 44-6.
- “An Essay on *Le Petit Prince*, by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (1943), In Dawn Thistle, ed. *An Assumption Library: Essays Presented in Celebration of the 29th Anniversary of the Emmanuel D’Alzon Library*. Worcester, MA: Assumption College, 2008, 82-4.
- Presenter, “Saint Augustine’s *Confessions* about His Love-Life,” Association for Core Texts and Courses, Fourteenth Annual Conference, April 2008
- Participant, “St. Augustine: Pastor at the Dawn of a New Millennium,” Summer Ecumenical Institute, Assumption College, June 25-30, 2000
- Presenter, “The Second Pillar of the *Catechism*, ‘Celebrating the Christian Mystery’,” Certificate Program for the Study of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Assumption College Institute for the Study of the Magisterial Teaching of the Church, 1996-97.
- Presenter, “Saint Augustine’s Images of Illumination in His *In Euangelium Iohannis Tractatus* 154,” The International Conference on Patristic, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania, October 1-3, 1993
- Participant, Augustine’s Legacy: A Symposium of the Teachings of Augustine, Villanova University, March 25-27, 1993
- Participant, International Patristic Conference, Oxford University, England, August, 1991

Assumptionist Ministry and Responsibilities

- Co-chair, Assumptionist Lay-Religious Alliance, 2019 - present
- Secretary for Council of the Province, summer 2018
- Secretary for the Assumption International Congress on Education, summer 2016
- Chaplain to the Assumption Sisters’ Provincial Chapter, August 2012
- Delegate to Provincial Chapter, 2010-12 session

International Assumption Lay-Religious Alliance Conference in Nîmes, France, August 2009

Chair, Assumptionist Lay-Religious Alliance, 2009-10

Local Treasurer Emmanuel House, 2006 - present

Provincial Formation Committee, 2006-12

Formation session with Postulants in Philippines, summer 2005

Assisted at the General Chapter in Rome, spring 2005

Translated the *Ratio Institutionis II*, from French to English and prepared it for publication, 2005

Ex-officio member of Provincial Chapter, in session 2004-06

Novice Master, 2003-05

Religious Superior of Assumptionist Community in Fiskdale, 2003-05

Member of International Redaction Committee for revising the Assumptionist Formation Policy, *Ratio Institutionis II*, 2002-04

Provincial Director of Formation, 2000-05

Member of Regional Council, 2000-05

International Formation Meeting in Nairobi, summer 2000

Delegate to the Provincial Chapter, in session 1998-2000

Religious Superior of Assumptionist Community at Emmanuel House, June 1996-2002

Shrine Ministry at Sanctuaire du Sacré-Cœur de Beauvoir, Sherbrooke, P.Q., Canada, July, 1996

Task Force for Proposals to the U.S. Regional Assembly on Assumptionist Education, spring 1996

Co-Chair, U.S. Regional Committee for Provincial Planning, 1994-95

Chair, Steering Committee for Provincial Planning, 1994-95

Member of the Provincial's Council, fall 1993 - fall 1995

Member of the Council of the Province, July 1992-2006

Delegate to the Provincial Chapter, July 1992

Member of "Rencontre des Jeunes," Rome and Nimes, summer 1985

Local Treasurer Emmanuel House, 1985-92

Assistant Novice Master, Assumptionist Center, Brookline, MA, 1977-79

Interim Religious Superior, Assumptionist Center, Brookline, MA, 1976-77

Summer Retreat Program, John XXIII Center, Cassadaga, New York, summers of 1971-73

Other Ministry Engagements

Parish ministry, Katholische Kirchengemeinde St. Maria Himmelfahrt, Gustorf-Grevenbroich, Germany, summer of 1990

Worship Commission, Diocese of Worcester, 1986-88

Assistant Formation Director, Assumptionist Center, Brookline, Massachusetts, 1977-79

Clinical Pastoral Training, Andover Newton Theological School and Boston City Hospital, summer of 1978

Religious Formation Training, House of Affirmation, Whitinsville, Massachusetts, 1977

Week-end Chaplain, Pease Air Force Base, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 1974-76

Languages

French, reading, speaking and writing ability: fluency

Italian, reading, speaking and writing ability: good

German, reading and research ability: good

Latin, reading and writing ability: very good

Greek, reading ability: good

Travel

Nimes, France, 2009

Rome, 2005

Philippines, summer of 2005

Mexico, number of times, 2002 - present

Nairobi, Kenya and Philippines, summer of 2000

Rome, May 1998

Rome and Paris, June - July 1997

Much time in Québec and Sherbrooke, P.Q. Canada

Eastern France, summer 1992

Four-year stay in Rome, Italy, 1988-92

Extensive visits to Florence, Sienna, Assisi, London and Oxford, summer 1991

Strasbourg, France, and northern Italy, September 1990

Grevenbroich, Germany, summer 1990; visits to Cologne, Bonn, and parts of Belgium and Holland

Romanesque sites in central and eastern France, summer 1986; visits to Paris and Versailles

Assumptionist Studies in Rome and southern France, summer 1986

Tour of ancient Jewish and Christian sites in Israel, November, 1985

Personal

Birth: January 28, 1944, Jackman, Maine Religious Life:

Monastic life: Trappist novitiate, Our Lady of the Genesee Abbey, Piffard, New York,
1962-64

Augustinians of the Assumption:

Novitiate: 1966-67

Perpetual Profession: June 9, 1973

Leave of Absence to return to Genesee Abbey, fall 1995

Return to Assumptionists and Assumption College, winter 1995-96

Ordination:

Diaconate: June 10, 1973

Presbyterate: November 23, 1974

Health: excellent