

CURRICULUM VITAE

Matthew Scott Vest, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Clinical
Division of Bioethics
Department of Biomedical Education & Anatomy
The Ohio State University College of Medicine

Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics
St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophical Theology, University of Nottingham, 2018.

Fellowship in Bioethics, OSU Center for Bioethics & Medical Humanities, 2014.

M.A., Liberal Arts, St. John's College, 2003.

Bannockburn Undergraduate Fellowship, Moral Philosophy, 2001.

AREAS OF SCHOLARLY SPECIALIZATION

Moral Philosophy, Bioethics, Christian Ethics, Wittgenstein

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Division of Bioethics (BMEA), OSU, 2022–

Senior Lecturer, Division of Bioethics (BMEA), OSU, 2019–2022.

Instructor, Division of Bioethics (BMEA), OSU, 2016–2019.

Lecturer in Bioethics, Center for Bioethics, OSU, 2014–2016.

Fellow of Humanities, New College Franklin, 2009–2012.

Institutional Director, New College Franklin, 2007–2012.

OSU COURSES TAUGHT

BSGP 2000: Foundations and Theory of Bioethics
BSGP 3000: Case Studies in Bioethics
BIOETHC 2000 (ONL): Foundations and Theory of Bioethics
BIOETHC 2020 (ONL): Bioethics at the Movies
BIOETHC 6000 (ONL): Foundations and Theory of Bioethics
BIOETHC 7060 (ONL): Religious & Theological Perspectives on Bioethics
BIOETHC 8000 (ONL): Directed Readings
BIOETHC 8010 (ONL): Practicum
BIOETHC 8020 (ONL): Thesis

GRANT SUPPORT/PARTICIPATION

Lilly Endowment, Inc. (\$1M) grant to St. Vladimir's Seminary. Faculty representative for continuing education project (2023–).

Center for Culture, Ethics and the Environment (final amount TBD). Project: "The Humility of Right." Co-PI. (2023–).

ODEE Education Grant: Quality Matters Certification Level I: Applying the Quality Matters Rubric Certification I (APPQMR) (2014).

The Nehemiah Foundation, Doctoral Studies Grant (\$25,000). Franklin, TN (2013–2017).

Center for Culture, Ethics, & the Environment Project: "Ancient Christian Wisdom and Bioethics: Engaging Western Medicine and the Church Fathers" (\$5,000) Co-PI. (2013).

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

MONOGRAPH

Ethics Lost in Modernity: Reflections on Wittgenstein and Bioethics (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2023).

JOURNAL ARTICLES/CHAPTERS

"The Limits and Possibilities of Language: Attending to Our 'Ways with Words' in Medicine and Bioethics," accepted and under review with *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics*, 2025.

"Bioethics as a Language Game: Probing the Quality of Moral Guidance in Principlism," accepted and under review for *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics*, 2025.

- “Educating Unto the Eternal Mystery: Reflections on Asceticism and the Annunciation” in *Orthodoxy and Classical Education*, David Hicks and Galen Gilbert, eds., accepted and forthcoming with St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press, 2025.
- “Fetal Tissues Research: An Orthodox Perspective,” in *Fetal Tissue and Christian Bioethics: A Review of the Scientific Developments, Policy Landscape, and Ethical Considerations (2022 Edition)*, Edward R. Grant, Heather Zeiger, & Michael J. Sleasman, eds., *Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity Special Report* (May, 2022).
- “Beyond Re-Enchantment: Christian Materialism and Modern Medicine,” *Christian Bioethics* 25, no. 3 (Nov., 2019): 266–282.
- “Embodied Knowledge and Moral Knowledge: Felix Ravaisson & Biomedical Ethics” in *Treating the Body in Medicine and Religion: Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Perspectives*, John Fitzgerald & Ashley Moyse, eds., Routledge Press (2019): 29–43.
- “Understanding Modern, Technological Medicine: Enchanted, Disenchanted, or Other?” with Ashley Moyse. *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics: Philosophy of Medical Research and Practice* 39, no. 6 (Dec., 2018): 407–417.
- “Decision Making With Older Minors: An Ethical Dilemma,” with Elmahdi Elkhammas, Britton Rink, Ryan Nash. *Ibnosina Journal of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences* 7, no. 1 (Feb., 2015): 27–30.

ARTICLES/CHAPTERS/BOOKS IN PROGRESS

- The Humility of Right: Reconsidering Rights Language for Orthodox Christians*, book project edited submitted and under review for St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press, 2025.
- “By Logic or Logos? Preface to *The Humility of Right: Reconsidering Rights Language for Orthodox Christians*,” submitted and in progress for St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press, 2025.
- “A Prophetic Voice Amidst (Scientific) Individual Rights: Reading Yannaras on Rights with Wittgenstein and Weil” in *The Humility of Right: Reconsidering Rights Language for Orthodox Christians*, submitted and in progress for St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press, 2025.
- “Ethics and Apostolic Faith Amidst the Fringes” with Ryan Nash, Introduction to re-publication of H.T. Engelhardt’s *Foundations of Christian Bioethics*, in progress for St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press.

BOOK REVIEWS

- “Orthodox Christian Bioethics: The Role of Hospitality (*philoxenia*), Dignity, and Vulnerability

- in *Global Bioethics*.” Review for *St. Vladimir’s Theological Quarterly* 67 (2023), 1–2.
- “Turning East: Contemporary Philosophers and the Ancient Christian Church.” Review for *St. Vladimir’s Theological Quarterly* (Spring, 2014).

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

BOOK REVIEWS

- “The Birth of Ethics: Phenomenological Reflections on Life’s Beginnings.” Forthcoming review for *Doody Publishing*, 2025.
- “Phenomenology of Bioethics: Technoethics and Lived-Experience.” Forthcoming review for *Doody Publishing*, 2025.
- “The End of the Law? Law, Theology, and Neuroscience.” Review for *Doody Publishing*, 2022.
- “Healthcare Ethics on Film: A Guide for Medical Educators.” Review for *Doody Publishing*, 2021.
- “Beauty for Truth’s Sake: On the Re-Enchantment of Education.” Review for *The Journal: Society of Classical Learning* (Vol. IV. Fall, 2011).
- “Wisdom and Eloquence, A Christian Paradigm for Classical Learning.” Review for *Reformation 21: The Online Magazine of the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals*, (January 2006).

EDUCATION / POPULAR ESSAYS

- “Reconsidering PEDs in Ultrarunning Pt. I,” *Ultra168.com* (August, 2015).
- “Reconsidering PEDs in Ultrarunning Pt. II,” *Ultra168.com* (August, 2015).
- “Thousand Dollar Pap-Smear.” Bioethics Literature-Journal Review, *Practical Reviews*; Oakstone Publishing Co., Birmingham, AL (January, 2014).
- “George McDonald’s Phantastes,” Wilson and Fisher, eds. *Omnibus III: Reformation to the Present* (Lancaster, PA: Veritas Press, 2006).
- “The Divine Comedy: Inferno,” Wilson and Fischer, eds. *Omnibus II: Church Fathers through the Reformation* (Lancaster, PA: Veritas Press, 2005).

INVITED TALKS

- “Escaping the Ethical Fly Bottle.” Collegium Lecture Series at New College Franklin

(December, 2024).

“Ethics Lost in Modernity.” Presentation for ASBH Christian Theology and Bioethics Affinity Group. Respondents to the presentation: Kyle Karches and Tyler Tate (October, 2023).

“And the Infant Leapt in Her Womb: Abortion and the Gift of Life.” Co–presentation with Ana Iltis. St. Vladimir’s Education Day Conference (August, 2022).

“Ethics Lost in Modernity: Wittgenstein, Bioethics, and the Secular.” Faculty Seminar Lecture for St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Seminary (December, 2021).

“An Orthodox Response to Secularism: How Orthodox Christians respond to matters of bioethics in a culture *After God*.” Co–presentation with Ana Iltis. St. Vladimir’s Education Day Conference (July, 2021).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“AI and the Legitimization of Violence? Identity, Gnosticism, and Language in the Technological Society.” Conference on Posthumanism and Artificial Intelligence | International Scientific Committee: PHAICON24, Athens, Greece (Nov. 2024).

“The Coherence of Language? Attending Practically to our “Ways with Words” in Medicine and Bioethics.” Lead proposer; panel presentation with Abraham Brummett, Martin Fitzgerald, Tyler Tate. Conference on Med and Religion, Indiana University (April, 2024).

“Prophetic Voice Amidst (Scientific) Individual Rights: Reading Yannaras on Rights with Wittgenstein and Weil.” Conference on Yannaras’ *The Inhumanity of Right*, St. Gregory of Nyssa OCA (March, 2023).

“Orthodox Christianity and Medicine.” Workshop presentation with Jeffrey Bishop, Ryan Nash, and Bruce Folz. Pre–Conference Workshop, Conference on Med and Religion, OSU (March, 2023).

“Engaging the Contours of Medicine’s Ethos and Human Rights: By the Power to Choose or the Person Who Chooses?” Lead proposer; panel presentation with Ryan Nash and Jeffery Bishop. Conference on Med and Religion, OSU (March, 2023).

“The Great Ambiguity of ‘Medicine’: Science? Art? Magic? Technique? Mechanics? Guild? Profession? Other?...or All?!” Lead sponsor for panel presentation with Autumn Ridenour, Nicole Shirilla, and Ethan Schimmoeller. Conference on Med and Religion, OSU (April, 2021).

“Performance Enhancing Drugs and Ultrarunning: What the Seriousness of PEDs Tells Us

- About Ourselves.” Presentation for OSU Medical Ethics Conference, Columbus, OH (Oct. 2019).
- “Is Suffering the Kiss of Jesus?” Lead sponsor for panel presentation including Ryan Nash, Kimbell Kornu, and Mark Wells (moderator). Conference on Med and Religion, Duke University (April, 2019).
- “Ethics Amidst Personal Knowledge: Guiding Theological Bioethics.” Junior Faculty Workshop Presentation, Conference on Med and Religion, Duke University (April, 2019).
- “Cultural and A-cultural Foundations: Surveying the ‘Question of Foundations’ through Engelhardt, Wittgenstein, and St. Gregory Palamas.” Conference on Med and Religion, St. Louis, MO (April, 2018).
- “Wittgenstein and the Foundations of Bioethics: Religious and Scientific Thinking in Modernity.” Junior Faculty Workshop Presentation, Conference on Med and Religion, St. Louis, MO (April, 2018).
- “The Value of Thinking About Your Thinking.” OSU Innovate 2017: Impact Conference, OH (May, 2017).
- “Bioethics: When Life is the Classroom.” OSU Innovate 2017: Impact Conference, OH (May, 2017).
- “Seeing the Body: Noesis and Modern Medicine.” Conference on Medicine and Religion, Houston, TX (March, 2017).
- “Religion & the Medicine of the Future: An Orthodox Critique of Scientific Theology & Ecumenism.” Respondent panelist with Ryan Nash, Farr Curlin, & Ashley Moyse, Conference on Med and Religion, Houston, TX (March, 2016).
- “The Teleological Suspension of Medicine: Fundamentally Scientific or Fundamentally Religious?” Conference on Medicine and Religion, Houston, TX (March, 2016).
- “Why Bioethics Has Failed Savulescu: Challenging ‘Slavish Moralism’ With a New Language Game.” Society of Orthodox Philosophers in America, Blanco, TX (February, 2016).
- “Moral Norms & Bioethics: By Theory or Therapy?” American Society of Bioethics and Humanities, Houston, TX (Oct., 2015).
- “Wittgenstein & Bioethics.” Lecture to Bioethics Fellowship, Center for Bioethics, OSU (May, 2015).
- “Integrity of Being: Therapy, Theories, and Truth.” Conference on Med and Religion, Boston (March, 2015).

- “An Ethic of Life: Bioethical Theory, Practices, and the Search for Unity.” Society of Orthodox Philosophers in America, Blanco, TX (February, 2015).
- “Embodied Knowledge and Moral Knowledge: Felix Ravaisson & Biomedical Ethics.” Conference on Med and Religion, Chicago (March, 2014).
- “Embodied Soul, Ensouled Body: Theological Method and Scientific Knowledge.” Society of Orthodox Philosophy in America, Blanco, TX (February, 2014).
- “Narrative Medicine and the Ontology of Modern Healthcare.” Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity 20th Conference, Chicago (July, 2013).
- “Rituals Forming The Soul: Corpse Impurity, Asceticism, and the Body as Relic.” Center of Theology and Philosophy 5th Conference, Oxford, UK (June, 2013).
- “Beauty Will Save the Soul: Formation & Theanthropic Education,” Edith Stein Project, Notre Dame University (Feb., 2013).
- “The Mercy of Ritual Cleanliness and Uncleaness,” Society of Orthodoxy Philosophy in America, Blanco, TX (Feb., 2013).
- “Ecology and Theology.” New College Franklin Collegium, Franklin, TN (Sept., 2011).
- “Technology and the Liberal Arts.” Arx Axiom Teacher Training, Franklin, TN (July, 2011).
- “Challenging Nature in Modernity: Technology and Sacramentum.” Center of Theology and Philosophy 4th Conference, Krakow, Poland (June, 2011).
- “Federal Financial Aid and the Religious College.” Orthodoxy and Higher Education Conference, St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary, Crestwood, NY (June, 2011).
- “*Ordo Amoris* and Education.” Commencement Address, Rockbridge Academy, Millersville, MD (May, 2011).
- “Growing in Wisdom: Ontology and Recovering the Liberal Arts as Spiritual Formation in Hugh of St. Victor’s *Didascalicon*,” Society of Orthodox Philosophy in America, Blanco, TX (Feb., 2011).
- “Virtue and the Liberal Arts.” Co-presenter with Caleb Faires, Arx Axiom Teacher Training, Franklin, TN (July, 2010).
- “Against Western Civilization.” Arx Axiom Teacher Training, Franklin, TN (July, 2009).
- “Culture and Education.” Artios Academy Teacher Training, Brentwood, TN (Aug., 2008).
- “Strong Minds, Soft Hearts, Fat Souls.” Harvest Banquet; Oak Mtn. Classical School (Oct., 2005).

OSU SERVICE & COMMITTEE EXPERIENCE

Assistant Director of Educational Programs (BMEA), OSU, 2013–

Service highlights

- Researched, designed, and proposed **first bioethics courses** offered at OSU; accepted and offered as
 - BSGP 2000 Foundations and Theory of Bioethics (AU, 2015) &
 - BSGP 3000: Case Studies in Bioethics (SP, 2015).
- Researched, designed, and proposed **Undergraduate Minor in Bioethics**; accepted by COM (SP, 2016).
- Researched, designed, and proposed **MA in Bioethics program**; accepted by COM (AU, 2016).
- Coordinated & proposed **course call letters** “BIOETHC”; accepted by OSU Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee [ASCC] (AU, 2016).
- Researched, designed, and proposed BIOETHC 2000 course proposal for **GE “Culture and Ideas”** status; accepted by ASCC (AU, 2017).
- Researched, designed, and proposed **MA Program Capstone Re-design** for BIOETHC 8010 & 8020; research & design changes approved by BMEA (2022–2023).

Division of Bioethics Education Planning Committee (2020–).

Division of Bioethics Strategic Planning Committee (2020–).

Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities Strategic Planning Committee (2020–).

MA Practicum Committee Service (2016–).

MA Thesis Committee Service (2016–).

Graduate Committee Member, Division of Bioethics, BMEA (2016–).

Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities Case Ethics Conference: Planning Committee service (2014–).

Peer-Review Evaluator for BIOETHC 6030 (SP, 2024).

Interim Director, MA in Bioethics (SP & SU, 2023).

Peer-Review Evaluator for BIOETHC 6020 (AU, 2023).

New Faculty Onboard Mentee for Division of Bioethics faculty, Martin Fitzgerald (2022).

Peer-Review Evaluator for HRS 4000 (SP, 2018).

College of Medicine Faculty Council Representative, BMEA (2016–2017).

Faculty Advisor, OSU Undergraduate Society for Bioethics (2015–2017).

Distance Education Course Development Focus Group participant (SU, 2017).

Medical Education Research Group: Medicine and the Arts and Humanism in Medicine Initiative (2014–2015).

OSU CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT | COURSES DESIGNED & APPROVED

BIOETHC 2000 ONL: Foundations & Theory of Bioethics (GE: Culture & Ideas)

BIOETHC 2000: Foundations & Theory of Bioethics (GE: Culture & Ideas)

BIOETHC 2020 ONL: Bioethics at the Movies

BIOETHC 3000: Case Studies in Bioethics

BIOETHC 4000: Readings in Bioethics

BIOETHC 6000 ONL: Foundations & Theory of Bioethics

BIOETHC 6040 ONL: Bioethics Symposium I

BIOETHC 6050 ONL: Bioethics Symposium II

BIOETHC 7060 ONL: Religious & Theological Perspectives in Bioethics

BIOETHC 8000 ONL: Directed Readings in Bioethics

BIOETHC 8010 ONL: MA Capstone (non-thesis)

BIOETHC 8020 ONL: MA Thesis

THESIS & PRACTICUM SUPERVISION

OSU BIOETHICS M.A. CAPSTONE

Thesis, Dennis Wells, TBD. (2025).

Thesis, Tim Freeman, TBD. (AU, 2024).

Thesis, Rafael Flores, “Consuming Care: Catholic Health Care and the Dangers of Commodifying a Ministry.” (SP, 2024).

Practicum, Kaylee Wolf, “Cultural Nuances in the Face of Death: A Religious Exploration of PAS and Euthanasia.” (SP, 2024)

Practicum, Emma Maltais, “Ethical Analysis of Return to Play for Elite Athletes.” (SU, 2023).

Practicum, Sade Olatoye, “The Ethics of World Athletics Eligibility Regulations That Marginalize Female Elite Sports.” (SP, 2023).

Thesis, Cali Cahill, “LDS Bioethics: Critique Using Engelhardtian Methodology and Reformulation.” (SP, 2023).

Thesis, Madisen Duke Bruchert, “Abortion in the Face of Pluralism: Secular Morality and Personhood.” (AU, 2022).

Practicum, Kayla Daniels, “Analyzing the Medical Ethics and Professionalism of *House M.D.*” (SU, 2022).

Practicum, Cameron Augustin, “A Pedagogical Outline for Lectures in Ethics: Introduction to Moral Philosophy and Ethics.” (SU, 2022).

Thesis, Aric Hluch, “Secular Moral Reasoning and Consensus: Uncertainty or Nihilism?” (SU, 2022).

Thesis, Kellie Malloy Foerter, “Euthanasia in Dementia: Normalizing a New Eugenics for Aging and Infirmary.” (AU, 2020).

Thesis, Ethan Schimmoeller, “Palliating Nihilism by Physician Aid-in-Dying: On Compassion, Autonomy, and the Question of Suicide.” (SU, 2020).

Thesis, Anne McClure, “Ritualized Futility via Clinical Momentum at the End of Life in the ICU: An Ethical Inquiry into Moral Distress in Nurses as a Response to Culturally Mediated Healthcare System Failure.” (SP, 2020).

ST. VLADIMIR’S SEMINARY

MDiv Honors Thesis, A. R. Prather, *Light in the Darkness: A Vision of Healing for Victims of Sexual Violence.* (SP, 2024).

MDiv Extended Essay, Joshua Birdsall, “How Do We Understand Gender? An Exploration of the Marriage Service as a Path into the Church’s Understanding of Male and Female.” (AU, 2023).

MDiv Honors Thesis, Joseph Thornburg, “Transgenderism: A Philosophical, Theological, and Pastoral Response.” (SP, 2022).

INTERPROFESSIONAL IMPACT EXPERIENCE & SERVICE

Conference on Medicine and Religion: Student Essay Competition Review Committee (2023–).

Advisory Board Member, Classical Learning Resource Center (2020–).

Journal of Medicine and Philosophy (Oxford University Press): Peer review service (2015–).

Conference on Medicine and Religion: Abstract Review Committee (2015–).

Christian Bioethics (Oxford University Press): Peer review service (2014–).

“The Limits and Possibilities of Language: Attending to Our ‘Ways with Words’ in Medicine and Bioethics.” Editor for Special Issue of *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics: Philosophy of Medical Research and Practice* (Forthcoming, 2025).

“The Humility of Right” Conference Co–Designer & Host: St. Gregory of Nyssa Orthodox (March, 2023).

Education Research Participation: OSU BIOETHC 7060 Syllabus Submitted for Albany Medical College Research Project: “Spirituality & Religion, Bioethics & Medicine” for T. Ostrowski, MD, C. Geppert, MD, PhD, DPS & D. Kim, PhD (November, 2022).

“Wise as Serpents, Innocent as Doves: Engaging with Contemporary Human Rights Discourse.” Podcast guest for *Every Thought Captive: Orthodox Commentary on Social Issues*, hosted by Daniel Gleeson (Dec. 2022).

American Society of Bioethics and Humanities: Christian Theology Affinity Group Co–Leader (2016–2021).

Young Scholars Workshop Invitee/Participant; Conference for Medicine and Religion (2019).

Young Scholars Workshop Invitee/Participant; Conference for Medicine and Religion (2018).

“Reflections on Modern Medicine at the Centenary of Max Weber’s ‘Science as a Vocation’ (1917),” with Ashley Moyses. Co–editor for Special Issue of *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics: Philosophy of Medical Research and Practice* 39, no. 6 (Dec., 2018).

Featured in *OSU Online Article* on course designed/taught (BIOETHC 6000): “A Personalized Online Course Experience,” C. Hagan (2/6/17).

Conference on Medicine and Religion: Inter–religious Panel planning coordinator (2015–2016).

Conference on Medicine and Religion: Planning Committee service (2015–2016).

“Introducing Bioethics.” Invited CPE Presentation, OSU Clinical Pastoral Education Program (July, 2015).

Applying the Quality Matters Rubric Certification I (APPQMR), Office of Distance Education & eLearning, OSU (2014).

“Biomedical Enhancement: Stronger, Smarter, Nicer...Holier Humans?” Middle TN Christian

Discussion Group (July, 2014).

“Bioethics As a Philosophical Puzzle.” CPE Shared-Learning Presentation, Healthcare Chaplaincy, New York, New York (March, 2013).

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), Healthcare Chaplaincy. Level One (250 clinical hours), New York (Jan–May, 2013).

Interprofessional seminar participant, 28th Annual Medical Ethics Conference; Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture (March, 2013).

St. Herman Society: Ecology at St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary, Crestwood, NY (2012–2013).

“Flannery O’Connor & The Poetic Imagination,” Middle TN Christian Discussion Group (2012).

Interviewed & quoted by *Inside Higher Ed*. L.A. Nelson, “Where Trendy is 17th Century” (July 11, 2011).

Guest panelist, Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools Conference, Nashville, TN (Nov., 2009). TRACS conference attendee 2009–2011.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

OSU Center for Bioethics

OSU Center for Ethics and Human Values

American Society for Bioethics and Medical Humanities

Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity

National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity

PAIDEIA Society

Society for Classical Learning

Society for Orthodox Philosophy in America

References & Letters of Support available upon request.