

# RYAN DARR

+1(203)909-5949  
ryan.darr@yale.edu

Yale Divinity School  
New Haven, CT 06511

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## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2024- **Assistant Professor of Religion, Ethics, and Environment**  
Yale Divinity School
- 2022-24 **Postdoctoral Associate in Religion, Ecology, and Expressive Culture**  
Yale Institute of Sacred Music  
Lecturer, Yale Divinity School
- 2019-22 **Postdoctoral Research Associate in Philosophy and Religion**  
University Center for Human Values  
Lecturer, Department of Religion  
Princeton University

## EDUCATION

- 2019 **Yale University, New Haven, CT**  
Ph.D. in Religious Studies (Ethics)
- 2012 **University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN**  
Master of Theological Studies (Moral Theology)
- 2006 **Huntington University, Huntington, IN**  
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Minor in Physics

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- 2023 *The Best Effect: Theology and the Origins of Consequentialism*, University of Chicago Press
- In Process *Multispecies Justice in an Era of Extinctions* (working title)

## Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2024 "The Great Web of Being: Environmental Ethics without Value Hierarchy," *Religions* 15, no. 5: 520.
- 2023 "Teleology and Consequentialism in Christian Ethics: Goods, Ends, Outcomes," *Studies in Christian Ethics* 36, no. 4: 906-925.
- 2020 "For the Sake of the Final End: Eudaimonism, Self-Orientation, and the Nature of Human Agency," *Journal of Religious Ethics* 48, no. 2: 182-200.
- 2020 "The Virtue of Justice and the Justice of Institutions: Aquinas on Money and Just Exchange," *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 40, no. 1: 3-20.
- 2020 "Virtues as Qualities of Character: Alasdair MacIntyre and the Situationist Critique of Virtue Ethics," *Journal of Religious Ethics* 48, no. 1: 7-25.
- 2019 "Climate Change, Individual Obligations and the Virtue of Justice," *Studies in Christian Ethics* 32, no. 2: 326-340.
- 2017 "Social Sin and Social Wrongs: Moral Responsibility in a Structurally Disordered World," *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 37, no. 2: 21-37.
- 2017 "Climate Change and Common-Sense Moral Responsibility," *Environmental Ethics* 39, no. 1: 21-38.

## Book Reviews

- 2023 Review of *Analytic Theology and the Academic Study of Religion* by William Wood, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 91, no. 2: 500-502.
- 2023 Review of *Modern Virtue: Mary Wollstonecraft and a Tradition of Dissent* by Emily Dumler-Winkler, *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 42, no. 2: 457-58.
- 2020 Review of *The Theology of Liberalism: Political Philosophy and the Justice of God* by Eric Nelson, *Political Theology* 21, no. 8: 743-44.
- 2020 Review of *Just Water: Theology, Ethics, and the Water Crisis* by Christiana Zenner, *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 40, no. 1: 199-200.

## Other Writings

- 2023 "Justice and Costs in the Green Transition" (A paper commissioned by and prepared for the 226<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.))

## TEACHING

### Yale Divinity School (2022-)

Eco-Futures: Theology, Ethics, and Imagination  
Introduction to Christian Ethics  
Christian Ethics Seminar  
Environmental and Multispecies Justice  
Environmental Ethics, Eco-Theology, and Fiction

### Princeton University (2019-22)

Environmental Ethics and Modern Religious Thought  
Ethical and Scientific Issues in Environmental Policy (with Peter Singer and David Wilcove)  
Religion and Ethics in the Anthropocene

### Other Teaching Experience

Full-Time High School Teacher, *Chicago Hope Academy High School, Chicago, IL (2007-2010)*  
Subjects: Physics, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Pre-Algebra, Health  
Coaching: Soccer, Robotics

GMAT Instructor, *Kaplan Test Prep, Chicago, IL (2010-2012)*  
Classroom teacher and individual tutor

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 “Sustainability, Hope and Imagination,” *Yale Office of Sustainability Lunch & Learn Series*, New Haven, CT (invited)
- 2023 “Interspecies Empathy and Species Conservation: Ethical Tensions,” *Extinction, Endangerment, and Environmental Storytelling*, Stavanger, Norway, Virtual Presentation
- 2023 “Valuing Individuals, Valuing Species,” *Yale Environmental Humanities Food for Thought Series*, New Haven, CT (Invited)
- 2023 “Saving Species in a Burning Landscape: The Ethics of Conservation in Richard Flanagan’s *The Living Sea of Waking Dreams*,” *International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*, Tempe, AZ
- 2023 “Climate Fiction and Moral Imagination,” *Annual Meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics*, Chicago, IL
- 2023 “Religion through and Beyond Catastrophe: Octavia Butler and Margaret Atwood,” *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, Denver, CO

- 2022 “How Are We to Value Endangered and Extinct Species? Ethical Reflections on Literary Depictions,” *Yale Institute of Sacred Music Lunch Talk*, New Haven, CT
- 2022 “Duty, Office, Responsibility: Institutions and Moral Language,” *Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting*, Costa Mesa, CA, Virtual Presentation
- 2021 “Valuing the Non-Human World: Christian Platonism and Environmental Ethics,” *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, San Antonio, TX
- 2021 “Wealth, Poverty, and the Economy of Grace,” *Karam Forum*, Fort Worth, TX (Invited)
- 2021 “Christianity and the Origins of Utilitarianism,” *Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting*, Virtual Presentation
- 2020 “The Problem of Friendship with God in Shaftesbury,” *Princeton-Bucharest Seminar*, Virtual Presentation
- 2020 “Two Visions of Eros in Cambridge Platonism,” *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, Virtual Presentation
- 2020 “Climate Justice and Individual Emissions,” *Human Values Forum*, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ (Invited)
- 2019 “Justice in the Anthropocene: A New Relational Context,” *Life in the Anthropocene*, Fordham University, New York City, NY
- 2019 “The Virtue of Justice and the Justice of Institutions: Aquinas on Money and Just Exchange,” *Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting*, Louisville, KY
- 2018 “Social Sin and Social Wrongs,” *Complicity and Responsibility: Living Faithfully Amidst Social Sin* (graduate course), Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ (Invited)
- 2017 “Teleology Transformed: Richard Cumberland and the Perfectionistic Natural Law,” *Brown-Yale-Princeton Ethics Colloquium*, Yale Divinity School, New Haven, CT
- 2017 “Social Sin, Moral Complicity, and Economic Harms,” *New England-Maritimes Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion*, Boston University, Boston MA
- 2017 “Social Sin and Social Wrongs: Moral Responsibility in a Structurally Disordered World,” *Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA

## HONORS, AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2022-24	Fellow, Benjamin Franklin College, Yale University
2020-21	Affiliate Fellow, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University
2018	Field Development Grant from “Theology of Joy & the Good Life Project” (collaborator with Jennifer Herdt)
2017	Best Graduate Student Paper, First Prize, New England-Maritimes Region of the American Academy of Religion (for “Social Sin, Moral Complicity, and Economic Harms”)
2017-18	Dissertation Fellowship, Yale University
2016-19	Doctoral Fellow, Yale Center for Faith and Culture
2012-19	University Fellowship, Yale University
2010-12	Full Tuition Scholarship, University of Notre Dame
2002-06	Presidential Scholarship, Huntington University

## ACADEMIC SERVICE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

2024	Second Reader, Master’s Thesis, “Digging Up Roots: Exploring Shared Ideologies Between Evangelical Climate Skeptics and Mainstream Liberals,” Liz Vukovic, Yale Divinity School
2023-24	Program Committee, “Environmentalisms, Ecologies, and the Black Sacred Arts,” Yale Institute of Sacred Music
2023	Planning Committee, “Environmental Joy Conference,” Yale Center for Environmental Justice
2023	First Reader, Master’s Thesis, “The Tulip’s Folly,” Luke Stringer, Yale Divinity School
2022-	Environmental Humanities Steering Committee, Yale University
2022-24	Co-organizer, “Religion, Ecology and Expressive Culture Initiative,” Yale Institute of Sacred Music
2022-24	Convener and organizer, “Religion, Ecology and Expressive Culture Student Interest Group,” Yale Institute of Sacred Music
2021-22	Application Committee, Fellowship of Protestant Ethics
2019-	Blind Reviewer for Journal of Religious Ethics, Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics, Journal of Social Philosophy, Journal of Value Inquiry, Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy, Palgrave Macmillan
2019-22	Organizer, “Princeton Project in Philosophy and Religion Working Group,” Princeton University
2020-21	Co-organizer, “Princeton Philosophy and Religion Conference,” Princeton University
2016	Participant, “Virtue, Happiness, and Self-Transcendence Seminar,” University of Notre Dame
2013-16	Co-Organizer, “Yale Religious Ethics Colloquium”
2013	Co-Organizer, “Brown-Yale-Princeton-University-Princeton-Seminary (BYP2) Ethics Colloquium,” Yale Divinity School
2013	Participant, “The Character Project Summer Seminar,” Wake Forest University

## **RESEARCH LANGUAGES**

English  
French  
German  
Latin

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Academy of Religion  
Society of Christian Ethics  
International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture  
Fellowship for Protestant Ethics