John Corrigan, Ph.D.

Director, Saint John Paul II Institute | Associate Professor of Philosophy
University of St. Thomas–Houston | Houston, Texas
john.corrigan@stthom.edu | LinkedIn

Portfolio Page: https://johncorrigan.owlstown.net/

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP PROFILE

Academic director, philosopher, researcher, and university instructor with multidisciplinary experience spanning higher education leadership, fundraising, executive outreach, ethics, organizational leadership, and humanities education. Director of the Saint John Paul II Institute at the University of St. Thomas–Houston with demonstrated success in institutional stabilization, graduate program development, executive student recruitment, donor cultivation, and scholarly publishing initiatives. Research and teaching are grounded in the Great Books tradition and the Catholic intellectual tradition, with particular emphasis on culture, ethics, leadership formation, faith and reason, philosophical anthropology, and John Paul II studies.

SELECTED LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENTS

- Helped secure and raise more than $500,000 in support of the Saint John Paul II Institute during a period of institutional stabilization and renewal.
- Expanded donor engagement and cultivated executive-level graduate student relationships resulting in increased philanthropic support and institutional visibility.
- Led strategic growth initiatives involving graduate recruitment, executive outreach, social media engagement, and interdisciplinary academic partnerships.
- Directed graduate final thesis and capstone projects integrating leadership formation, applied ethics, and professional application.
- Supported development and fundraising initiatives for the peer-reviewed journal Wojtyła Studies, including preparation efforts toward future Scopus indexing.
- Led assessment, accreditation, and institutional effectiveness initiatives related to SACSCOC and Watermark compliance.
- Developed new initiatives integrating leadership formation, ethics, faith and reason, and interdisciplinary humanities education.

CURRENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

University of St. Thomas Houston — Saint John Paul II Institute
Director | July 2024–Present, Associate Professor of Philosophy
Provide academic, operational, fundraising, and strategic leadership for the Saint John Paul II Institute and its graduate and Polish Studies programs.

EDUCATION

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile — Santiago, Chile
Ph.D., Philosophy (2016)
Dissertation with Two Notes of Distinction: The Problem of the Idea of Culture in the Thought of Karol Wojtyła / Pope John Paul II

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile — Santiago, Chile
M.A., Philosophy (2014)
Graduate research in philosophical anthropology, culture, ethics, phenomenology, and interdisciplinary/multilingual original sources inquiry.

International Academy of Philosophy — Liechtenstein
Magister Philosophie und Politikwissenschaften, summa cum laude (1997)
Thesis: John Paul II's Critique of Capitalism

Christendom College — Virginia
B.A., Philosophy, magna cum laude (1989)
Formation in the Great Books tradition, classical philosophy, theology, literature, and liberal arts.

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

University of St. Thomas Houston
Director | 2024–Present

University of St. Thomas Houston
Assistant Director / Assistant Professor | 2024

University of St. Thomas Houston
Adjunct Professor | 2023–2024

Immaculata University
Lecturer / Professor of Philosophy | 2001–2022

PUBLICATIONS

Book
The Problem of the Idea of Culture in the Thought of John Paul II: Exposing the Disruptive Agency of the Philosophy of Karol Wojtyła. Lexington Books / Rowman & Littlefield, 2020.

- "The Meaning of Witness in Wojtyła." Wojtyła Studies 1, no. 1 (2024): 78–98.
- "The Problem of the Constitution of Culture in Karol Wojtyła / John Paul II." Revista Aporía 12 (2017): 39–54.

RECENT PRESENTATIONS AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

- Congress of Karol Wojtyła — Kraków, Poland (2025): "From Method to Schematic."
- American Catholic Philosophical Association (2025): Co-Organizer, Chair, Speaker, and Commentator for panel on "John Paul II on 'The Gift.'"

- Museum Wadowice / John Paul II University, Kraków (2024): "Karol Wojtyła / John Paul II the Reformer."
- American Catholic Philosophical Association (2024): Commentator on archival studies in Wojtyła's philosophy.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Karol Wojtyła / John Paul II Studies
- Philosophy of Culture
- Faith and Reason
- Personalism and Philosophical Anthropology
- Leadership Formation and Ethical Leadership
- Great Books and Liberal Arts Education
- Natural Law and Constitutional Thought
- Philosophy of Economics and Critiques of Capitalism

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Editor — Wojtyła Studies
Responsibilities include manuscript preparation, scholarly review coordination, fundraising, journal development initiatives, academic outreach, and indexing preparation.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE OUTSIDE ACADEMIA

HMI Keypad Solutions — Walnut, California
Director of Sales and Marketing | 2012–2021

Equinox Research and Recovery Co., Inc. — Vermont
Real Estate Purchaser / Translator | 2005–2009

Intercollegiate Studies Institute
Director of Subscription Management Operations | 1997–2000

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Full Scholarship, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (2013–2016)
- Research Fellowship for Doctoral Thesis Research in Rome, Italy (2014–2015)
- Princeton University Summer Institute on American Studies (2008)
- Full Tuition Scholarship, International Academy of Philosophy, Liechtenstein (1989–1991)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Catholic Philosophical Association
- American Maritain Association

LANGUAGES

- English — Fluent
- German — Advanced

- Spanish — Beginner