

THOMAS CHAUNCEY BEHR

Division Dean, Social & Behavioral Sciences and Global Studies
Associate Professor & Chair, Department of History
Director, Integrated Studies BA/BS/BAAS
Director, Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE)

University of St. Thomas

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Education

Ph.D. (2000)	State University of New York at Buffalo Department of History Major: Modern European Intellectual History Minors: Medieval History, European Historiography
M.A. (1990)	Cumulative GPA: 4.0
J.D. (1987)	Faculty of Law and Jurisprudence Licensed, New York State, 1988
(1980-81)	Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin Department of History Graduate studies in Medieval History
B.A. (1980)	St. John Fisher College, Rochester, New York Double Major: French and History
(1978-79)	Sorbonne, Université de Paris Cours de la Civilisation Française

Fellowships, Awards, Honors: Acton Institute Mini Grant, 2019, 2025; Hillsdale College Free Market Forum scholarship, 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025; Philos Project Israel Colloquium, 2024; University of St. Thomas Faculty Development Grant, 2019/20; Institute for Humane Studies, Hayek Faculty Development Grant, 2019; UH Provost Travel Grant, 2018; UH Faculty and Program Development Grants, various 2004-2015; Calihan Research Grant (Acton Institute) Rome, Summer 2003; Hayek Research Grant (IHS) Fall 2002; Erasmus Institute Seminar (Notre Dame University/Boston College) Summer 2001; History and Economic Research Institute Grant (Earhart Foundation) Summer 2001; U.S. Fulbright Fellowship for Italy, 1991-92; SUNY Buffalo – TH Darmstadt (Germany) Exchange Fellowship, 1989-90.

Additional Foreign Study:

Institut d'Etudes Françaises
Bryn Mawr College d'Avignon
Seminars Social Science, Summer 1985

Technische Hochschule Darmstadt
Dissertation Research, 1989-90

Herder Institut, Dresden
Karl-Marx-Universität Leipzig
German language, Summer 1989

Società Dante Alighieri
Comitato di Roma
Italian language, Spring 1991

Research:

Book

- *Social Justice and Subsidiarity: Luigi Taparelli and the Origins of Modern Catholic Social Thought*. Catholic University of America Press, December 2019.

Book Chapters

- "Papal Pivot: Nineteenth Century Evolution of Catholic Social Teaching," in *Inventing the Modern Papacy: From Feudal Kingdom to Global Soft Power (1789-1914)*. *Studies in Church History*. Brill Publishers, due out 2025.
- "The 19th Century Historical and Intellectual Context of Catholic Social Teaching," in *Catholic Social Teaching: A Volume of Scholarly Essays*. Edited by Gerard Bradley and E. Christian Brugger. Cambridge University Press, September 2019.

Articles

- "Taparelli on Cult, Culture and Authentic Progress," *Fellowship of Catholic Scholars Quarterly*, Summer 2020.
- "Luigi Taparelli and Catholic Economics," in *Journal of Markets and Morality*, Fall 2011.
- "Luigi Taparelli D'Azeglio," *New Catholic Encyclopedia* (Cengage, 2010)
- "Massimo Taparelli D'Azeglio," *New Catholic Encyclopedia* (Cengage, 2010)
- "Luigi Taparelli on the Dignity of Man," in *Pontifical Academy of St. Thomas: Christian Humanism in the Third Millennium. Proceedings*. (2006).
- "Luigi Taparelli and Social Justice: Rediscovering the Origins of a 'Hollowed' Concept," in *Social Justice in Context*, Vol. 1, 2005.
- "Luigi Taparelli's Natural Law Approach to Social Economics," *Journal des Economistes et des Etudes Humaines*, Summer 2003.
- "Luigi Taparelli D'Azeglio, SJ and the Revival of Scholastic Natural Law," *The Journal of Markets and Morality*, Spring 2003.

Translations

- "Direction of Future Research," by Luigi Taparelli, *Journal of Markets and Morality*, translated and edited with introduction, due out in 2026 Winter (not yet submitted)
- *Worthy of God: Marinella's Man's Amorous Turn to Divine Beauty (1597)*, Introduced and edited by Francesca D'Alessandro Behr; co-translated with Thomas C. Behr. (University of Toronto Press, in development).
- "The Two Economies," by Luigi Taparelli, *Journal of Markets and Morality*, translated and edited with introduction, due out Winter 2024.
- "Critical Analysis of the First Principles of Political Economy," by Luigi Taparelli, translated and edited, with introduction. *Journal of Markets & Morality*, Fall 2011.
- Massimo Cacciari, "History and Destiny;" 2. Carlo Sini, "The Beyond of Language;" 3. Roberta de Monticelli, "What is Choice? Phenomenology and Neurobiology;" 4. Guido Oldoni, "Terminal Realism;" 5. Francesco Tomatis, "Luigi Pereyson: Good, Evil, Freedom" In *Annali d'Italianistica*, Vol. 29, 2011.

Other Publications

- *Summa Theologica of Thomas Aquinas. Selections for Students in Western Civilization, World Civilization, Humanities, and Law*. 2nd ed. (Pearson Publishing, 2009)
- *Study Guide to Margaret King, Western Civilization*. (Prentice Hall, 2005)

Presentations

- "The Enduring Legacy of Luigi Taparelli to Catholic Social Thought," Catholic University of America, Institute for Human Ecology, April 25, 2025. (colloquium via Zoom)
- "Luigi Taparelli, SJ, and the Development of Modern Catholic Social Thought," Boston College, "Political Catholicism" visiting lecture, February, 2024.
- "Luigi Taparelli and Catholic Economic Thought," Belmont Abbey College, visiting lecture, September, 2020.
- "Subsidiarity and the Limits of Social Justice," International Society for Intellectual History. St. Andrews University, Fife, Scotland (UK), June 10-13, 2018.
- "Luigi Taparelli's 'Influence of Catholic Prayer on Civilization,'" American Catholic Historical Association. Emmitsburg, MD, April 12-14, 2018.
- "Luigi Taparelli and Social Justice: Rediscovering the Origins of a 'Hollowed' Concept." Baines Memorial Lecture, Inaugural Keynote Address, East Carolina University, Institute for Social Justice, April 2004.
- "The Eternal Return of the Natural Law: Luigi Taparelli, S.J. and the Revival of Scholastic Natural Law." The American Maritain Association. Princeton, October 2002
- "The Revival of Natural Law in the Restoration Period and the Contribution of Luigi Taparelli." The Historical Society, Atlanta, May 2002.
- "The Fits and Starts of Catholic Liberalism: An Exchange Between Luigi Taparelli, SJ and Charles Comte de Montalembert." Texas French Historical Studies. Houston, February 2002.
- "The Historical Context of the Thomistic Revival in the Early 19th Century." Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas. Houston, May 2001.

Teaching:

Developed and taught new MLA and Integrated Studies courses...

Master in Liberal Arts Interdisciplinary Seminars, annually

MLMLA 5338 Pursuit of Happiness

Syntopical Readings, Socratic Discussions, Great Books readings on the perennial question of human fulfillment

MLMLA 5337 Liberal Learning Through the Ages

Syntopical Readings, Socratic Discussions, Great Books readings on the material, formal, efficient, and final "causes" of education

Integrated Humanities BA/BS Gateway Course, every semester

ISTUD 2301 Integral Learning

Learning how to learn course based on writings of Mortimer Adler

And History courses...

HIST 3364 Church History II

Interdisciplinary study of the Church as institution and people of faith across the ages, from 1300

HIST 3363 Church History I

Interdisciplinary historical study of the Church as institution and people of faith across the ages, from the age of the apostles to 1300

HIST 4345 Greek and Roman Historians

Insights and philosophical dimensions of Greek and Roman Historiography

HIST 4330 The Historian's Craft

Study of Modern European Historiography

HIST 3370 The Enlightenment and its Critics

Review of majors Enlightenment thinkers and spectrum of reactions
HIST 3320 Church Confronts Modernity
Evolution of Modern Catholic Social Thought

Prior to 2019:

ILAS 4350 Senior Seminar in Liberal Studies (2010-2019)
Syntopical Readings, Socratic Discussions, on the Pursuit of Happiness
ILAS 2350 Introduction to Liberal Studies (2011-2019)
Foundations of Liberal Learning: Theory and Practice of Analytical Reading and Socratic Discussion

Interdisciplinary Humanities Courses (multiple institutions as indicated)
Early Western Civilization (to 1500): UH; SUNY Buffalo; SUNY Geneseo; SUNY Fredonia
Modern Western Civilization (from 1500): UH; EMU; SUNY Geneseo; SUNY Buffalo
World Civilization, Part I: Fall 2004, UH
Basic Texts of the Western Tradition, I: UH—Clear Lake
Basic Texts of the Western Tradition, II: UH—Clear Lake; UH-CL/Texas Department of Criminal Justice
War and Culture: UH; SUNY Buffalo
Human Situation - Antiquity: Honors College, UH
Human Situation, Modernity: Honors College, UH
Senior Seminar: Rochester Institute of Technology
Social Consequences of Technology: Rochester Institute of Technology
Science, Technology, and Values: Rochester Institute of Technology
Introduction to the Humanities: SUNY Geneseo

European History Courses
Greek and Roman Historians: UH; UH-CL/TDCJ
20th-Century Europe: Eastern Michigan University
European Revolutions: UH
Modern European Intellectual History: UH; UH-CL/TDCJ; SUNY Buffalo
History of Modern Italy (from 1789): Keuka College; SUNY Geneseo; St. John Fisher College
History of Modern France (from 1815): SUNY Geneseo

Academic Outreach and Community:

2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2019: Hillsdale Free Market Forum participant
2024: Philos Project Israel Symposium
2021: Seekers & Sages alumni talk: "Liberal Arts for the 21st Century (?)"
2012: Institute of Catholic Culture: "Thomas More's Life and Most Famous Work: Utopia"
2011: CIRCE Institute Academy, "Reading for Entertainment: A.G. Sertillanges and P.G. Wodehouse"
2011: Houston Symphony - FEI, "On the 100th Anniversary of Mahler's Resurrection Symphony:
Mahler's Cultural Milieu, Fin de Siècle Europe" with pre-performance talk by Maestro Hans Graf.
2011: Rotary Club of West University, on "The Value of the Liberal Arts Today"
2011: Houston Property Rights Association luncheon, on "Liberal Education and Liberty"
2010: Humble Rotary Club luncheon, on "The Value of the Liberal Arts Today"
2009: Houston Museum of Natural Science – FEI, "Lucy: Origins of Humanity" exhibition, two talks, 1)
Culture and Human Evolution, 2) Culture and Destiny.
2008: Houston Museum of Natural Science – FEI, "Birth of Christianity: a Jewish Story" exhibition,

three talks, 1) Outline of Jewish History, 2) Roman Judea at the time of Jesus, and, 3) Pagans and Christians at the Birth of Europe

Administrative Service/Experience

Program Level (MLA, ISTUD BA/BS, History)

- Developed new degree plan, Executive MLA “Great Books for Working Professionals” (Fall 2020)
- Developed new concentration area for the MLA in Entrepreneurship in collaboration with the McNair Center for Free Enterprise (proposed for Fall 2021)
- Adjusted MLA degree plan to create a “gateway course” cohort experience (Spring 2020)
- Developed “Pursuit of Happiness,” as MLA “gateway course” (Spring 2020)
- Developed new concentration areas for the MLA in Business and Education in collaboration with the School of Education and Human Services and the Cameron School of Business (Spring 2020)
- Conducted extensive campaign Summer 2020 with GRN Radio, Facebook, and National Catholic Register, with Marketing
- Designed and prepared all-online version of the UNIV 2301 (ISTUD 2301) “Integrated Learning” course required for the new IHBA/BS, cross listed with MLMLA 5301 as an MLA elective
- Developed new courses for History Department
- Developed and maintain MLA-IH combined Facebook, Twitter, Instagram accounts:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/USTMLAIH>
 - https://twitter.com/ust_mla
 - https://www.instagram.com/mla_ust/
- Relaunched IHUM program as Integrated Studies (ISTUD)
- updated ISTUD 2301 “Integrated Learning” OA course to Blackboard Ultra and best practices
- Divisional Dean, interim, Social & Behavioral Sciences and Global Studies (since 2022)
- Chair, Department of History
 - streamlined degree plan, modernized catalog course offerings and sequences, redesigned website, activated scholarship sources, administered faculty development grants, coordinated with implementation of new History Core course, developed programs for student and community engagement (since 2021)
- Director of Integrated Humanities BA/BS Program
 - Designed, proposed, secured approvals, marketed, website design, launch scheduled for Fall 2020, eventual advising and mentoring, program management
- Director of Master in Liberal Arts
 - Manage and redesign degree structure, additional practical concentration areas, marketing initiative, website re-design, advising and mentoring, budget oversight, manage Administrative Assistant and multiple adjunct instructors and student workers, collaborations across university programs and external centers such as the Center for Faith and Culture (since 2019)
- Handed off MLA direction to Tony Joseph in 2022/23

University Service

- Marshall National Scholarship UST Institutional Representative, 2024/25
- SACSCOC Task Force on Policy Review, Spring semester 2024
- SACSCOC Leadership Standards and Narratives Review Committee, Fall 2024

- Conducted Formation for Mission session on Catholic Social Teaching (October 2024, 2023, 2021)
- Launched visiting lecture series for Integrated Humanities (May 2021)
- Presentation for UST Alumni "Seekers & Sages" series, "Liberal Arts for the 21st Century" (2021)
- Presentation for Formation Toward Mission, on Catholic Social Teaching (March 2021)
- UST IT Webinar "Teach Online" presentation (March 2021)
- PhD Defense Chair -- Center for Thomistic Studies (Feb 2021)
- Ad Hoc Committee for proposing Medical Humanities minor program (Spring 2020)
- Ad Hoc Committee for Formation Toward Mission (Fall 2019-Spring 2020)

Professional Activities

- Boston College: book presentation of Social Justice & Subsidiarity (March 2024)
- AHA/SIHS/ACHA Book Award Committee (2021), Committee Chair (2022), Committee Chair (2023)
- External Program Reviewer for MLA program, Henderson State University (April 2021)
- Radio Maria, global radio network, interview on encyclical Fratelli tutti (November 2020)
- Belmont Abbey College: book presentation of Social Justice & Subsidiarity (Sept 2020)
- Acton University, participant (June 2020)
- ACHA Graduate Student Summer Fellowship Committee (2018, 2019)

Professional Memberships

- International Society for Intellectual History
- American Historical Association
- American Catholic Historical Association
- Fellowship of Catholic Scholars
- Society for Italian Historical Studies
- National Association of Scholars

Prior to 2019:

Director of Liberal Studies (2009 to 2019)

University of Houston, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Program Administration

Oversee recruitment, training, and course delivery by qualified instructors, (PhD in Philosophy or Intellectual History, interest in ethics and classical worldview) for the required Liberal Studies courses; currently four adjuncts, plus one fulltime NTT

First 3-year Strategic Plan (2010)

Second 3-year Strategic Plan (2013)

Third 3-year Strategic Plan (2017)

Liberal Studies CLASS Information Sheet, Brochure (various)

Maintain Liberal Studies Statistics (Dashboard, PeopleSoft, Excel database)

Manage LS Academic Advisor and student workers, ePerformance Evaluations

Annual I.E.P. and A.P.A.R.

Annual Exit Survey analysis, review of trends and student evaluations

Liberal Studies Advisor Policies and Procedures Manual – annually updated

Marketing and Development

UH Webpage quality oversight, monthly review

<http://www.uh.edu/class/ccs/liberal-studies/index.php>

Facebook and Twitter feeds, postings on LS news, job market, personal development

<https://www.facebook.com/uoliberalstudies>

<https://twitter.com/UHLibStud>

Participate UH Promotional Events and Outreach

Mladenka-Fowler LS Scholarship, raised \$65,000, 2014-2017

Jeremy and Helen Davis, miscellaneous Liberal Studies technology support gifts, and student scholarships for summer institutes, circa \$30,000 between 2011 and 2015

Liberal Studies Curriculum Development and Grants

New Degree Approval for Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies, CBM ILAS 4350 Senior Seminar in Liberal Studies, PPR etc. (2009/10)

CBM ILAS 2350 Introduction to Liberal Studies (2010)

FDIP for ILAS 2350 Hybrid (2011) Approved for Honors Credit (2014)

FDIP for ILAS 2350 All-Online (2013)

CBM for ILAS 2350 Approved for Core: Language, Philosophy, & Culture (2013)

Degree modification, adding Practicum Requirement, with four options: internship, study abroad, thesis, or business writing course (2014)

CBM ILAS 3350 Power Writing (2014)

FDIP for ILAS 3350 Power Writing (\$20,000, multi-semester grant) (2015)

New Degree Approval for Bachelor of Science version of Liberal Studies, CBM and PPR etc. (2015/16)

Student Advising and Mentoring

One-to-one Mentoring for all LS majors available

Practicum Orientations

Practicum Management Advising

Practicum Internship Independent Study

Learning Abroad

Rome, Italy –Summer 2011 and 2012, ILAS 4350

Strasbourg, France – Winter Session 2011/12 and 2012/13, ILAS 2350

Sailing the North Atlantic on the Wylde Swan – Summer 2016, ILAS 4350

Paris to Venice, Winter Cultural Tour, 2016/17, ILAS 2350

Malawi Global Service and Adventure Tour, Summer 2017 (developed, canceled)

UH, CLASS, CCS Committees and Program Development

Member Dean's Ad Hoc Committee: CCS Task Force (2011)

Member Provost Ad Hoc Substance Abuse Prevention Advisory Board (2014/15)

Member Provost Committee on Global Citizenship Certificate, helped design

CCS Strategic Planning Sub-Committee (2012 to 2014)

Design and CBM for Global & Intl Studies Minor

Design, CBM and PPR for Religious Studies Major

Organized fundraiser: "Kemper Crabb Benefit Concert for Religious Studies"

Member Dean's Ad Hoc Committee on Interdisciplinarity and Collaboration (2010/11, 2011/12);

proposed and facilitated the symposium: Immigration Experiences: Houston and Beyond (2012)

Multiple – Comparative Cultural Studies Hiring Committees, ANTH, LS, India Studies, RELS, and Chair search, 2013-15

Chair Mladenka-Fowler Scholarship committee (2013-present)

CLASS Independent Review Committee of Liberal Studies (2015-2016)

Inter-Institutional Service – Dual and Accelerated Degree Programs

UH/University of Texas School of Nursing 3+2 Nursing Dual Degree (NDD), served on design

committee and directed approval process through CLASS Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, and

University Council

Chaired NDD Program Inter-University Committee (2012 to 2016)

UH Faculty NDD Coordinator, 2011-2016

UH-Honors/UTSON – NDD administration transferred to Honors College, Fall 2016

UH/Xinhua University 2+2 Liberal Studies B.A. proposed degree program

(design and negotiations, 2014, 2015, but did not launch)

UH-Honors/UH Law Center 3+3 Law Accelerated Degree, Honors Program (launched 2016), assisted design and new degree plan approval process

UH-Honors/UH Hobby Center, 4+1 Masters of Public Policy Accelerated Degree, (launched 2017), assisted design and new degree plan approval process

Related Employment

Director of Educational Programs (2007 – 2010)

Free Enterprise Institute (FEI), Houston, TX

Designed, organized, delivered, moderated or participated, in series of “Continuing Education” programs, Socratic seminars on the “Great Books” for educators from Houston area private and public, secondary and primary schools.

Topics/Readings included (in no particular order): Homer's Odyssey, Tocqueville's Democracy in America, Aristotle's Politics, Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics, Beowulf, Economics through Literature, Hazlitt's Economics in One Lesson, Hayek's Road to Serfdom, Pieper's Leisure as the Basis of Culture, History of Global Economic Development, U.S. Constitution, Roman Civilization, Kirk's Roots of America Order, Marx and Engels' Communist Manifesto, Classical Conceptions of Friendship, etc.

Assisted with Development, event programming and donor relations