

Bryan Allen Demeritte

Curriculum Vitae

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ACADEMIC PREPARATION

Ph.D. - Practical Theology, St. Thomas University, Miami Gardens, FL: December 11, 2020.

Dissertation: *Seeking a Practical Theology Religious Education Model for Transescents Through Interdisciplinary Dialogue*

Committee Members: Mary Carter-Waren (Chair), Nathaniel Samuel, and Robert Seney.

N.Th.D. – Theology of Relationships, New Theology School online, February 8, 2023

M.Div., United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, New Brighton, MN, 2005

M.S. - English/Gifted Education, Nova Southeastern University, Tampa, FL, 2000

B.A. - English, Lindenwood University, St. Charles, MO, 1993

HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Chair – Humanities and Social Sciences Department, Distance Learning Systems, Indianapolis, IN 2020-present

Professor, PITC (Online) 2023-present

Professor, The New Theology School (Online) 2022-present

Adjunct Professor, United Theological Seminary, St. Paul, MN 2022-present

Adjunct Professor, Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO 2020-present

Professional Development Trainer, United Theological Seminary, St. Paul, MN 2021

Professor, Distance Learning Systems, Indianapolis, IN 2011-present

Professor & Director, Gifted Education, The Demeritte School, Sebring, FL 2017-present

Adjunct Professor, Saint Thomas University, Miami Gardens, FL, 2013-2020

Adjunct Professor, Hillsborough Community College, Tampa, FL, 2006-2012

Executive Director and Gifted Endorsement Instructor, Suncoast Education Center 2011-2017

Gifted Endorsement Instructor, Seminole County Public Schools, Sanford, FL, 2010-2016

Gifted Endorsement Instructor, Leon County Public Schools, Tallahassee, FL, 2011-2013

Gifted Endorsement Instructor, FDLRS, Tallahassee, FL, 2011-present

Adjunct Professor, Inver Hills Community College, Inver Grove Heights, MN, 2003-2006

Instructor, St. Louis Community College, St. Louis, MO, 1993-1997

K-12 EXPERIENCE

Gifted Resource Specialist, Hillsborough County Public Schools, Tampa, FL 2016-2018

Teacher of the Gifted, I Have a Dream Foundation, Miami, FL, 2012-2013

Teacher of the Gifted, Milwee Middle School, Sanford, FL, 2010-2012

District Arts/Gifted Education Supervisor, Osceola County Schools, Kissimmee, FL, 2008-2010

District Arts/Gifted Curriculum Specialist, Hillsborough Schools, Tampa, FL, 2006-2008

Teacher, Columbia Heights Schools, Columbia Heights, MN, 2002-2006
District Magnet Visual/Performing Arts Specialist, Hillsborough Schools, Tampa, FL, 2000-2002
Teacher, Hillsborough County Schools, Tampa, FL, 1997-2000
Teacher, St. Louis Public Schools, St. Louis, MO, 1993-1997

PASTORAL/CONGREGATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Consulting Minister, Dakota Unitarian Universalist Church – Eagan, MN 2023-present
Pastoral Associate, Shepherd of the Hill Church – Chaska, MN 2021-2023
Senior Pastor, Wild Goose Church International - Sebring, FL, 2018-2021
Pastor, The Converging Church - Brandon, FL, 2014-2018
Pastor-in-Residence, Divine Mercy Chapel - Wilton Manors, FL, 2013-2014
Pastor, Chapel of Grace - Orlando, FL 2009-2012
Pastor, St. Mark United Church - Valrico, FL, 2006-2009
Pastor-in-Residence, Community of Grace - New Brighton, MN, 2005-2006
Minister of Music and Worship - Pilgrims United Church, Maple Grove, MN, 2003-2005
Director of Music, Chorale and Drama - St. Mark United Church, Valrico, FL, 1999-2002
Director of Music, Chorale and Drama - Grace United Church, St. Peters, MO, 1994-1997

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

2023. *Polyamorous Theology: A Dialogical Experiment in Thinking*
2020. *Seeking a Practical Theology Religious Education Model for Transescents Through Interdisciplinary Dialogue*. Dissertation Published December 2020. St. Thomas University, Miami, FL
2016. *Toward a Praxis of Synergy: Coming of Age in Religious Education*. Iannone Conference, Miami, FL
2016. *Emerging Affective Needs of Youth in Education today*. Gifted Symposium, Sarasota, FL
2016. *A New Vision for Coming of Age: A Practical Theology of Transescence*. Iannone Conference, Miami, FL
2015. *Betwixt and Between: Imagining the Gifts of Middle School Christian Religious Education*. Religious Education Association Conference, Atlanta, GA
2015. *Weaving Together Christian Identity and Christian Vocation: Toward An Emerging Practical Theology Of Giftedness*. Iannone Conference, Miami, FL
2014. *Creating Safe Space for Spiritually and Existentially Gifted Children in the K-12 Classroom*. Supporting the Emotional Needs of Gifted Students Conference, Orlando, FL 2013.
Making a Way for Children with Spiritual Giftedness to Excel in the Public School Classroom. Florida Association of the Gifted Conference, Tampa, FL
2011. *Moving Gifted Education in K-12 Contexts to the Next Level of Accountability: Differentiating Instruction for the Spiritually and Existentially Gifted*. Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

2007. *From Enrichment Triad Model to Multiple Intelligences: Fusing Our Understanding of Intelligence with Giftedness*. Confratute, University of Connecticut.
2002. *Creating A Successful Magnet School for the Arts and Giftedness: Our Model of Success*. Magnet Schools of America Conference, St. Louis, MO
2000. *The Gifted Needs of Students Who Excel in the Arts: An After-School Model of Support for Middle Schoolers*. Florida League of Middle Schools, Sarasota, FL

CLERGY CREDENTIALS

2023. Aspirant, Unitarian Universalist Association
2020. Ordained Minister, The Progressive Christian Alliance
2005. Ordained Minister, United Church of Christ

COMMITTEE AND ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

Unitarian Universalist Association * The Progressive Christian Alliance * The United Church of Christ * Kapp Gamma Pi * American Academy of Religion * Religious Education Association * Association of Practical Theology * Theta Alpha Kappa * Phi Delta Kappa * National Council of Teachers of English * National Association for Gifted Children * Florida Association for the Gifted (Chair – Training and Supervision) * Florida League of Middle Schools (Chair – Committee on Differentiated Instruction) * Magnet Schools of America * Gifted Education Steering Committee – Seminole Schools (Chair) * Gifted Education Steering Committee – Osceola Schools (Chair) * Florida State Gifted Steering Committee

AWARDS AND HONORS

2020. Ph.D. *with Distinction* – St. Thomas University, Miami
2016. The Holland Lecturer Award, Iannone Conference – St. Thomas University, Miami
2016. Holland Paper Award, Iannone Conference – St. Thomas University, Miami
2015. Ph.D. Candidate *with Distinction* – St. Thomas University, Miami
2014. Inducted, Theta Alpha Kappa – St. Thomas University, Miami
2013. Outstanding Educator of the Year – I Have a Dream Foundation, Miami
2005. Steckel Pastoral Care and Counseling Award – United Theological Seminary, Twin Cities
2000. Teacher of the Year, Hillsborough County Public Schools
1996. Teacher of the Year, Saint Louis Public Schools
1995. Adjunct Instructor of the Year, Saint Louis Community College

GRANT PROJECTS AWARDED

2010. *Fostering Opportunity and Renewal in Gifted Education*, Collaborative Gifted Curriculum Challenge Grant, Florida State Department of Education, \$14,000
2009. *Embodying Problem-Solving in Embryology through Gifted Education*. 4-H

Collaborative Grant, Hillsborough County Cooperative Extension Service, \$4300
2009. *Hillsborough Magnet Assistance Program*. (Contributing Writer for Gifted) – Hillsborough County Schools, U.S. Department of Education, \$11,568,525
2007. *All Creatures Big and Small*. Agricultural Awareness Grant, University of Florida, \$5,000.
2001. *Co-Creating Art: Stained Glass As Enduring Legacy of Teacher-Student Collaboration*. Progress Village Magnet School of the Arts, Tampa, FL, Hillsborough Education Foundation Grant, \$6,570
1999. *Converging Community Entities: Community Collaboration in the Arts and Gifted Programs*. Van Buren Middle School, Tampa, FL, Busch Gardens Foundation, \$16,700.

COURSES TAUGHT

Undergraduate: English Composition I * English Composition II * American Literature I * American Literature II * Survey of Humanities * Introduction to Creative Writing * Developmental Writing * Principles of Public Speaking * The Arts and Religious Thought * Introduction to College Writing * Religious Art & Iconography * Introduction to World Religions * Introduction to the Old Testament * Introduction to the New Testament * The Book of Matthew * Anglican Polity and Doctrine * Developmental Psychology * Introduction to Psychology * Introduction to Sociology * Introduction to Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Theology * Introduction to Ethics * Introduction to Philosophy Adult Basic Education * Introduction to Middle School Philosophy * Educational Philosophy

Graduate Seminary: *Theology of Relationship Building * Polyamorous Studies * Faith Formation * MDiv Capstone Project Course * Introduction to Religious Education * Christian Social Ethics * Queer Theologies and Voices * Andragogical Virtual Instructional Methodology * Innovative Virtual Worship

Other Graduate: Social Transformation in Gifted Education * Middle School Pedagogy and Applied Middle School Philosophy * Nature and Needs of Gifted Students * Curriculum Development for Gifted Learners * Theory and Nurture of Creativity * Guidance and Counseling for the Gifted * Special Populations of Gifted Learners * Gifted Learners Living with Autism Spectrum Disorder * Multi-exceptional Gifted Learners

SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Queer Theologies * LGBTQI+ Theologies * Relationship Theology * Polyamorous Studies * Religious Education * Ethics * Social Ethics * Christian Ethics * Social Transformation * Rural Ministry * Andragogy * Writing * Composition * Leadership and Ministry * Arts Integration * Religious Art & Iconography * Scripture and Exegesis * Historical Theology * The Narratives of World Religions * World Religions * Philosophy * Ecumenism * Interfaith Missions * Philosophy * Problem-Based Learning * Gifted Education * Pastoral Theology * Field Education * Practical Theology * Critical Thinking * Student-centered Learning * Chaplaincy * Church Planting and Growth * Church Leadership * Pastoral Care and Counseling * Pedagogy *

Curriculum Development * Hermeneutics * Environmental Stewardship * Environmental Theology * Sustainable Agriculture as Environmental Theology

EXTRACURRICULAR AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION LEADERSHIP

LGBTQIA+ Community Ministry * Volunteer – Florida Immigration Advocacy * Volunteer Chaplain – Hillsborough County HIV Advocacy Project * Group Leader – Suicide Survivor Support Group Initiative * Homeless Shelter & Food Bank Volunteer and Event Organizer * Community Trainer – Cooperative Extension Sustainable Living Project Initiative * 4-H Youth Project Judge – Florida State Fair * Sponsor - Faithful Students for Justice and Mercy * Coordinator – Youth Farm and Market Project in Minneapolis, MN * Team Coach - Future Problem Solvers International * Volunteer - Florida Human Rights Campaign Religion & Faith * Tampa Bay LGBTQIA+ Pride Faith Committee – President * Volunteer Trainer - 4-H Leadership Group – Tampa Bay * Writer and Director – Everlasting Passion of Christ, A Progressive Drama of the Passion * Coordinator – Hillsborough County School District Renaissance Festival * Director - Musical Theater Production at Progress Village School of the Arts (*The Wiz, Cinderella, Into the Woods*) * Sponsor - Drama Club * Sponsor - After-School Community Chorale * Editor - Writing and Arts School District Magazine called *Camelot's Creations*

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Relationship Building * Polyamorous Studies * Religious Education * Andragogical Virtual Educational Methodologies * Virtual Worship & Sacraments * StreamYard * Facebook Live * YouTube Live * Distance Learning Curriculum Development * Innovative Pedagogical Skill and Training * Advanced Virtual/Distance Education Design and Instruction * BrightSpace * Canvas * Moodle * Blackboard * Adobe Connect * GoToMeeting * Zoom * Microsoft Office * Regenerative Agriculture * Poultry Fancy and Showing * Aquarium, Terrarium, Paludarium hobby * Sacred Music Performance and Accompaniment (organ, piano, keyboards)