

**María Teresa (MT) Dávila, Ph.D.**

17 Division St.  
Malden, MA 02148  
339/224-0469 (c)  
mariatdavila@gmail.com

**EDUCATION:**

**Boston College**, Chestnut Hill, MA

- Doctor of Philosophy, 2007  
Concentration: theological ethics and social ethics  
Dissertation: *A Liberation Ethic for the One-Third World: The Preferential Option for the Poor and Challenges to Middle-Class Christianity in the United States*  
Advisor: Fr. Thomas Massaro, SJ

**Boston University School of Theology**, Boston, MA

- Master of Theological Studies, January 1999  
Concentration: Systematic theology

**Brown University**, Providence, RI

- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, May 1993

**CURRENT POSITION**

- **August 2008 – Present, ANDOVER NEWTON THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL, Newton, MA:** (2008-Spring 2015) Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics; (Spring 2015-present) Associate Professor of Christian Ethics, with tenure.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

- **Summer 2011, HISPANIC SUMMER PROGRAM, Mundelein, IL:** Instructor – *Vivir es Creer: Introducción a la Ética Cristiana*
- **Spring 2007, EMMANUEL COLLEGE, Boston, MA:** Instructor – *Introduction to Catholic Theology*
- **Fall 2006, EMMANUEL COLLEGE, Boston, MA;** Instructor – *Introduction to Catholic Theology and History of Christianity I: From its Origins to the Reformation*
- **Spring 2006, BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY, Waltham, MA;** Visiting Professor – *Introduction to Christianity*
- **Spring 2005, EMMANUEL COLLEGE, Boston, MA;** Instructor – *Catholic Social Teaching*
- **Fall 2003, BOSTON COLLEGE, Chestnut Hill, MA;** Teaching Assistant – *Liberation Ethics*, course taught by Roberto Goizueta. Also assisted Prof. Goizueta in planning the 2004 Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA) convention (academic year 2003-2004).
- **Spring 2003 and 2004, BOSTON COLLEGE, Chestnut Hill, MA;** Teaching Assistant – *Liberation Theology*, course taught by Prof. Roberto Goizueta.

- **Fall 2002, BOSTON COLLEGE, Chestnut Hill, MA;** Teaching Assistant – *Prophets and Peacemakers*, course taught by Prof. Steven Pope.
- **Summer 2002, HISPANIC SUMMER PROGRAM, San Germán, Puerto Rico;** Teaching Assistant – *Misión y Ecumenismo*, course taught by Prof. Carmelo Álvarez.

#### **AWARDS AND HONORS:**

- **May 2016, THE LOUISVILLE INSTITUTE,** First Book Grant for Minority Scholars. Grant allows for a one-year sabbatical for research and writing during academic year 2016-2017.
- **May 2014, ANDOVER NEWTON THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL,** Baccalaureate Speaker. Selected by graduating class to be the faculty speaker at the 2014 Baccalaureate service.
- **September 2004, BOSTON COLLEGE DISSERTATION YEAR AWARD,** Awardee.
- **September 2004, HISPANIC THEOLOGICAL INITIATIVE-DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP AWARD,** Awardee.
- **September 2001 and 2002, HISPANIC THEOLOGICAL INITIATIVE-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM,** Awardee.
- **September 2000-May 2005, BOSTON COLLEGE MINORITY SCHOLAR,** Awardee.
- **September 2000-May 2004, BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP,** Awardee.

#### **SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS:**

- (Forthcoming) *Living the Option for the Poor in the U.S.: Interrupting the Culture Wars*. (Westminster John Knox Press).
- “Love and Justice in a Home with Mental Health Needs.” *Parenting as Spiritual Practice and Source for Theology: Mothering Matters*. Edited by Annie Hardison-Moody and Elizabeth Gandolfo (Palgrave MacMillan, 2017).
- “The Option for the Poor in *Laudato Si*: Connecting Care of Creation With Care for the Poor.” *The Theological and Ecological Vision of Laudato Si: Everything is Connected*. Edited by Vincent Miller (London, UK: Bloomsbury, 2017).
- “Public Theology as Bridge Building.” *Horizons* (Spring 2017): 367-373.
- *Living With(Out) Borders: Theological Ethics and People on the Move*. Co-edited with Agnes Brazal (Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 2016). \*\*Winner third place in the category “Immigration”, Catholic Press Association book prize.\*\*

- “La Opción Preferencial por los Pobres, Francisco y los EEUU: Obstáculos y Avances.” *Filosofía e Independencia Desde América Latina y el Caribe*, edited by Juan Carlos Casas García (Ciudad México: Universidad Pontificia de México, 2016): 139-147.
- [Book review] “Kelly Brown Douglas, *Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God*.” *Christian Century* (Fall, 2015).
- “The Great Divide.” *Radically Catholic in the Age of Francis* (electronic book). Edited by Elias Crim (Solidarity Hall, 2015).
- “Latino/a Ethics.” *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Latino/a Theology*. Edited by Orlando Espín (London, UK: Wiley-Blackwell, 2014).
- “Interrupting Augustine’s Inheritance: Breaking the Dominance of Power and Order in Augustine’s Development of an Ethic of War Through Latino/a Theology.” *Augustine and Social Ethics* (part of the “Augustine in Conversation: Tradition and Innovation” Series). Edited by Kim Paffenroth and Teresa Delgado (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books/Rowman & Littlefield, 2014).
- [Book review] “Daniel Groody, *The Preferential Option for the Poor: Beyond Theology*.” *American Catholic Studies* (Fall, 2014).
- [Book review] “Miguel de la Torre, *Doing Christian Ethics from the Margins* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition revised and expanded).” *Christian Century* (Fall, 2014).
- [Book review] “Jessica Wroblewski, *The Limits of Hospitality*.” *Political Theology*, Tobias Winright, book review editor. (Spring 2014).
- “The Gift We Bring – Engaging Miroslav Volf’s Vision of Religions in the Public Square.” *Political Theology*, Julie Clague, editor (December 2013).
- [Book review] “Daniel Groody, *Gustavo Gutiérrez: Spiritual Writings*, Selected with an introduction by Daniel C. Groody.” *Journal of Catholic Social Thought* (Fall 2012).
- “Who is Still Missing? Economic Justice and Immigrant Justice.” *The Almighty and the Dollar*, Mark Allman, editor (Winona, MN: Anselm Academic, 2012): 214-227.
- “The Role of the Social Sciences in Catholic Social Thought: The Incarnational Principle of the Preferential Option for the Poor and Being Able to ‘See’ in the Rubric ‘See, Judge, Act’.” *Journal of Catholic Social Thought*. Vol. 9 No. 2 (Summer 2012): 229-244.
- [Book review] “Nancy-Pineda Madrid, *Suffering and Salvation in Ciudad Juarez*.” *Political Theology*, Tobias Winright, book review editor. PT 13.3 (Sp2012): 384-387.
- “A Latina Methodology for Christian Ethics: The Role of the Social Sciences in the Study and Praxis of the Option for the Poor in the United States,” *Faith, Feminism, and*

*Scholarship: The Next Generation*, Melanie Harris and Kate Ott, editors (New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011): 89-105.

- “Racialization and Racism in Theological Ethics: ‘Facing History’ as a Pillar for a Catholic Ethic Grounded on the Preferential Option for the Poor and an Incarnational Anthropology.” *Catholic Theological Ethics: Past, Present, and Future*, James Keenan, editor. (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2011): 307-321.
- “Acompañamiento: A Walk Toward Dignity for All,” *Reflections Yale Divinity School* (Spring 2011): 58-60.
- “The Role of Latina/o Ethics in the Public Square: Upholding and Challenging ‘The Good’ in a Pluralistic Society.” *Wading Through Many Voices: Toward Theology of Public Conversation*, Harold Recinos, editor (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2011): 73-89.
- Response to Eleazar S. Fernández: Otro(s) Mundo(s) Zurdo(s). *Wading Through Many Voices: Toward Theology of Public Conversation*, Harold Recinos, editor (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2011): 68-71.
- “Third Sunday in Easter,” in *Preaching Social Justice from the Lectionary: Years A, B, and C*, Ronald J. Allen, Dale P. Andrews, and Dawn Ottoni Wilhelm. editors (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2011).
- “Catholic Hispanic Theology in the U.S.: Dimensiones de la Opción Preferencial por los Pobres en el Norte.” *Catholic Theological Society of America Proceedings*. 2008, Vol. 63: 28-48.
- [Book Review] “Ivonne Gebara: *Out of the Depths: Women’s Experience of Evil and Salvation*,” (translated by Ann Patrick Ware), *Journal of Hispanic/Latino Theology*. <http://www.latinotheology.org/node/14>.
- “The contribution of Reinhold Niebuhr’s ‘Moral Ambiguity’ to Contemporary Discussions on the Morality of the Use of Force in a Post Cold-War World.” *Political Theology* 5.2 (2004): 177-199.
- “From Evil Temptress to the First Act of Courage: How Paul Tillich Saves Eve in the Genesis Account of the Fall.” *North American Paul Tillich Society Newsletter*. Volume XXVI, Number 1, Spring 2000.

#### SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS:

- **October 2016**, “The Option for the Poor and the Catholic Vote: Beyond the Culture Wars,” Beckett Lecture, Brown University, Providence, RI.
- **October 2016**, “The Option for the Poor and the 2016 Election: Beyond the Culture Wars,” Merrimack College, North Andover, MA.

- **June 2016, CTSA**, “Are we all ‘doubly oppressed’? Puerto Rican women and transformations in faith,” lecture presented at the Women’s Consultation meeting of the Catholic Theological Society of American, San Juan, PR.
- **January 2016 SCE**, “Asian-American and Latino/a Christian ethics: an interplay of stories and journeys,” presentation at the Asian and Asian-American Working Group at the annual meeting of the Society for Christian Ethics, Toronto, Canada.
- **November 2015**, “The ‘UndocuBus’ and Martin Luther King, Jr: the legal and the illegal in social transformation,” paper presented at the American Academy of Religion meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- **November 2015**, “The Option for the Poor in Laudato Si: the Environmental Challenge to the Middle Class,” paper presented at the American Academy of Religion meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- **March 2015**, “The Challenge of a ‘Preferential Option’ to Faith in the Context of Privilege,” panel, *A Preferential Option for Culture*, Loyola University, Chicago, IL.
- **March 2015**, “Whereat the Church of the Poor of Vatican II?,” panel, *Our Inheritance – Vatican II at 50*, Fordham University, New York, NY.
- **January 2015**, “Special panel on racial justice and police violence,” panel, Society for Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- **January 2015**, “Introducing Christian Ethics: Is there a Canon?,” panel, Society for Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- **November 2014**, “Discipleship as Public Witness and Action for Transformation,” Call to Action Annual Conference, Memphis, TN.
- **November 2014**, “Moral Theology and the *Sensus Fidelium*: A Response to Eastern European Ethics,” Regional Meeting of the Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church, Krakow, Poland.
- **November 2014**, “Which is it – Political Theology, Social Ethics? And Does it Matter?,” Panel presentation for the Ethics Section, American Academy of Religion Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- **November 2014**, “Theological Ethnography and Ecclesial Practices,” Respondent, Ecclesial Practices Group, American Academy of Religion Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- **January 2014**, “Shared Narratives of Vulnerability: Families Caught at the Intersection of Migrant and Host Identities,” Society for Christian Ethics, Seattle, WA.
- **November 2013**, “Marching in the Light of God: Understanding the Relationship Between Discipleship and Activism,” Practical Theology Group, American Academy of Religion, Baltimore, MD.

- **October 2012**, “Faith and the Public Square: Balancing Religious Beliefs with the Common Good.” Academic Symposium and panel, Anna Maria College, Paxton, MA.
- **October 2012**, “Death with Dignity? A Public Conversation on Assisted Suicide.” Panel presentation sponsored jointly by Hebrew College and Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Center, MA.
- **October 2012**, “For Faith and/or For Country? Negotiating Discipleship and Citizenship in the Public Square.” Presentation at St. Anne’s Episcopal Church, Lincoln, MA.
- **March 2012**, “The Relevance of Vatican II after 50 Years,” response to Massimo Faggioli. Emerging Theologians Conference, Boston College, MA.
- **June, 2011**, “25 Years Later, Who is Still Missing? The Place of the Migrant in *Economic Justice for All*.” Paper presented at the 2011 meeting of the Catholic Theological Society of America.
- **June, 2011**, “Evolution and Incarnation: Musings on “Sacramental Science” and its Implications for Justice.” Paper presented at the 2011 Colloquium of the Academy for Catholic Hispanic Theologians in the United States, San Jose, CA.
- **March 2011**, “Religious Diversity in Theological Education: How I Came to Be the Bearer of Traditionalism...” presentation at the *Women of the World* conference of the Anna Howard Shaw Women’s Center, Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA.
- **March 2011**, “The Role of the Social Sciences in Catholic Social Thought: Being Able to ‘See’ in the Rubric ‘See, Judge, Act’ and the Preferential Option for the Poor.” Plenary paper at the Catholic Social Teaching and Global Poverty Conference, Villanova University, Villanova, PA.
- **November 2010**, “Introduction to Liberation and Feminist Theologies.” A three-lecture series at the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, Winchester, MA.
- **November 2010**, “A Triple Threat: Immigration and Christian Identity.” Lecture presented at St. Anselm’s College, Manchester, NH.
- **October 2010**, “Bridging the Chasm: Conscientization and Christian Discipleship.” Reflection presented to the Board of Directors of Church World Service at their annual meeting, Brookline, MA.
- **July 2010**, “Racialization and Racism in Theological Ethics: ‘Facing History’ as a Pillar for a Catholic Ethic Grounded on the Preferential Option for the Poor and an Incarnational Anthropology.” Plenary paper, Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church conference, Trento, Italy.

- **March 2010**, “Unión, Reunión y Comunión: Christian Ecumenism and the Wager of Latino/a Christians.” *Latino/a Theology Lecture* at Concordia Lutheran Seminary, St. Louis, MO.
- **February 2009**, “Post-racial America? Facing History as a Theological and Ethical Requirement.” The Annual Thea Bowman Lecture, Merrimack College, North Andover, MA.
- **January 2009**, “Latina/o Ethics and the Use of Force: Examining the Just War Tradition through Latina/o Eyes.” Paper presented to the Latino/a Ethics Group at the 2009 conference of the Society for Christian Ethics, Chicago, IL.
- **June 2008**, “Catholic Hispanic Theology in the U.S.: Dimensiones de la Opción Preferencial por los Pobres en el Norte.” Plenary address to the Catholic Theological Society of America Convention, Miami, FL.
- **June 2008**, “The middle-class American family and the option for the poor: revisiting *Parenting for Peace and Justice* (K. and J. McGinnis) 27 years later.” Paper presented to the Marriage and Family Group at the 2008 conference of the College Theology Society, Newport, RI.
- **November 2007**, “Risking Sanctuary, Prophetic Hospitality, and Encountering Wholeness: Three theological models for comprehensive engagements with immigrants in the Christian Churches.” Paper presented as part of a panel to the Practical Theology Group at the American Academy of Religion Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- **November 2006**, “The Latina/o Theologian as an Organic Scholar: An Exercise in Public Theology Guided by the ‘Signs of the Times.’” Paper presented at the *La Comunidad* session at the American Academy of Religion Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- **October 2006**, “Latina/o Ethics and U.S. Civil Society: Notes on Shaping Christian Moral Identity for Dialogue and Change.” Orlando Costas Lecture, Andover Newton Theological School, Newton, MA.
- **July 2006**, “*Illegal and Legitimate*: Notes on the question of morality and law in international ethics.” Position paper commissioned by the International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA.
- **July 2006**, “The Preferential Option for the Poor and the Millennium Development Goals: What Can Be Recovered from Liberation Theology for Christian Solidarity in North America?” Paper presented at the First International Conference of Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church, Padova, Italy.
- **March 2006**, “I shop, therefore I am: Middle-class identity and challenges to the Christian churches in the United States.” Lecture delivered at Yale Divinity School, New Haven, CT.

- **November 2005**, “*Dignidad en la Lucha: Latina/o Ethics and U.S. Civil Society.*” Paper presented at the Latina/o Religion, Culture, and Society Group session at the American Academy of Religion meeting in Philadelphia, PA.
- **June 2005**, “Consuming individualism and the Option for the Poor: A Critique of Middle-Class Identity.” Paper presented at the Mysticism and Politics Section of the College Theology Society Meeting, Mobile, AL.
- **October 2004**, “Catholic Social Teaching, the Option for the Poor, and Catholic Health Care Providers.” Presentation to Catholic health care facilities administrators of New England, Covenant Health Systems, Lexington, MA.
- **February 2004**, “An Ethic of Hospitality in the Face of Violence in the Home.” Response to a paper by William Schweiker, presented at the Regional Meeting of the Hispanic Theological Initiative, *Violence in the Home: A Latino Concern*, Chicago, IL.
- **November 2003**, “Anthropologies in dialogue: Paul Tillich and José Ignacio González-Faus, SJ, and anthropologies of liberation”. Paper presented to the North American Paul Tillich Society Meeting at the American Academy of Religion meeting in Atlanta, GA.
- **November 2003**, “Empowerment of the poor and democracy: new dimensions on the question of international development”. Paper presented to the Ethics Group at the American Academy of Religion meeting in Atlanta, GA.
- **June 2003**, “Globalization and the Option for the Poor: Catholic Efforts for the Humanization of Globalization.” Paper presentation at the Ethics Section of the College Theology Society Meeting, Milwaukee, WI.
- **May 2003**. “Responding to Terrorism: An ethical, technological, medical, and journalistic perspective”. Presentation on the ethical dimensions of the war on terror using just war theory during the Brown University’s Reunion College.
- **March 2002**, “The Future of Feminist Theologies”, Panel discussion with students on the future of feminism as part of the Women’s History Month program at Providence College in Providence, RI.
- **April 2002**, “Sacramental Grace and Ecological Ethics: A Dialogue Between Traditional Catholic Sacramental Theology and Philosophy of Science”. Paper presented at the 2002 American Academy of Religion Regional Meeting held at Brandeis University, Waltham, MA.
- **February 2002**, “Remember the Underside: A response to Otto Maduro’s Post-modernity and Latino/a Theology”. Response presented at the 2002 Regional Meeting of the Hispanic Theological Initiative, *Post-modernity and Latino/a Theology*, Orlando, FL.
- **November 1999**, “Italian Catholic Immigrant Women and the Birth and Sustenance of St. Peter’s Catholic Parish in Malden”. Paper presented to the Roman Catholic Studies Group at the American Academy of Religion meeting in Boston, MA.



- **November 1997**, “From Evil Temptress to the First Act of Courage: How Paul Tillich Saves Eve in the Genesis Account of the Fall”. Paper presented to the Issues in the Thought of Paul Tillich Group at the American Academy of Religion meeting in San Francisco, CA.

#### **MEDIA PRODUCTIONS AND OPINION PIECES (INTERNET ‘BLOGS’)**

- **May 2015**, “We Need a Social Theology of Privilege in the Wake of Baltimore,” *Political Theology Today – Quick Takes*, <http://www.politicaltheology.com/blog/quick-takes-struggling-for-a-deeper-understanding-of-what-racial-justice-means-after-baltimore/>.
- **October 2014**, Latin American Perspective on The Synod of Bishops 2014,” *The Tablet*, October 11, 2014.
- **October 2014**, “Under the Law,” [www.politicaltheology.com/blog](http://www.politicaltheology.com/blog).
- **December, 2013**, “The Incarnational Principle of Divine Love: the Preferential Option for the Poor in the Francis Moment,” [www.politicaltheology.com/blog](http://www.politicaltheology.com/blog).
- **September 2013**, “How Shall People of Faith Consider a Possible U.S. Intervention in Syria?,” [www.ants.edu](http://www.ants.edu).
- **August 2013**, “A Kaleidoscopic Journey of Faith,” [www.catholicmoraltheology.com](http://www.catholicmoraltheology.com)
- **August 2012**, “Quo Vadis Occupy?,” [www.catholicetics.com](http://www.catholicetics.com)
- **June 2012**, Jesuit School of Theology, Santa Clara – video taped commentary on the legacy of Vatican II.
- **June 2012**, Good News People, Louisville, KY – video taped interview on Catholic social teaching and the local church. Video series will be used in Catholic parishes as a resource on Catholic social teaching.
- **October 2011**, “The Occupy Movement as Redevelopment Program,” [www.catholicmoraltheology.org](http://www.catholicmoraltheology.org)
- **Fall 2011**, [www.theologysalon.com](http://www.theologysalon.com) – series of blog commentaries on Catholic social thought and the Occupy movement.
- **July 2011**, “Of Deathly Hallows – Immigration and Discipleship,” [www.catholicmoraltheology.org](http://www.catholicmoraltheology.org)
- **January 2011**, Loyola University, New Orleans – video taped lecture for use in coursework on new dimensions in Catholic theology, especially immigration, from a Latina/liberationist perspective.

#### **PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT, SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION, AND AFFILIATIONS:**

- **Fall 2010 – present**, **CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL ETHICS IN THE WORLD CHURCH**, member, planning committee; chair, regional committee for Latin America.

- **June 2001-Present, ACADEMY OF CATHOLIC HISPANIC THEOLOGIANS IN THE UNITED STATES**, member, currently serving four-year presidential cycle (elected June 2015).
- **April 2005-present, SOCIETY FOR CHRISTIAN ETHICS**, member. **January 2010-2013**, editorial board member, *Journal of the Society for Christian Ethics*; **January 2016**, elected to the board of the SCE (three-year cycle).
- **June 2005-present, CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA**, associate member. **June 2011 – June 2013**, Board Member-Committee for Underrepresented Ethnic and Racial Groups.
- **April 2002 and September 2003, YOUNG CATHOLIC HISPANIC SCHOLARS IN THEOLOGY**, participant. Invited to this special program sponsored by the Institute for Latino Studies, University of Notre Dame.
- **August 2001-2008, LATINAS IN THEOLOGY**, member and coordinator.
- **November 1996-Present, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION**, member.
- **March 1998 October 1998, and October 2000, ASSOCIATION OF THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS-WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**.

#### FOREIGN LANGUAGES:

- Fluent in Spanish, working knowledge of Italian

#### REFERENCES:

- Prof. Tobias Winright – St. Louis University, Department of Theological Studies, Gnaegi Center for Health Care Ethics
- Prof. Bryan Massingale – Fordham University, Department of Theology
- Prof. Brita Gill-Austern – Andover Newton Theological School
- Prof. Jennifer Peace – Andover Newton Theological School
- Prof. Benjamin Valentin – Andover Newton @ Yale Divinity School
- Prof. Orlando Espín – University of San Diego, Theology and Religious Studies
- Prof. Gerald Beyer – Villanova University, Theology and Religious Studies Department
- Fr. Thomas Massaro, SJ – Dean, Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University