

Robert Jay Rivera, Ph.D

Theology and Religious Studies
St. John's University
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Education

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA
Graduate School of Art and Sciences
Doctor of Philosophy in Systematic Theology

Dissertation: *A Christology of Liberation in an Age of Globalization and Exclusion: The Contributions of Jon Sobrino and Edward Schillebeeckx*
(Dissertation defended August 2014)
Director: Roberto S. Goizueta
Readers: M. Shawn Copeland, Nancy Pineda-Madrid

Examination Fields (passed April 2011)
Systematic Theology
Theological Method
Contemporary Christologies
Theological Ethics

Minor Concentration in Theological Ethics (focus on race and racism)

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA May 2007
Harvard Divinity School
Master of Theological Studies (Theology and Culture)

New York University, New York, NY May 2005
Bachelors of Arts in Sociology (Social Problems in the U.S.)

Areas of Teaching and Research: Specialization

Christology
Theology and Culture
U.S. Liberation Theologies—Latina/o/x, Black, Womanist, Native American.
Latin American Liberation Theologies

Areas of Teaching and Research: Competence

Global Theologies/Global Christianities
Theology and Social Theories (with a focus on race).
U.S. Latina/o and Latin American Pentecostalism

Teaching and Experience:

Associate Professor (Tenured and Promoted)	Fall 2020 - Present
Assistant Professor (Tenure-track) St. John's University, Queens, NY Theology and Religious Studies Department	Fall 2014 – Spring 2020
Instructor (Contract) St. John's University, Queens, NY Theology and Religious Studies Department	Fall 2013 - Spring 2014
Teaching Fellow Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA Theology Department	Fall 2011 - Spring 2012

Publications

Book (published):

Co-editor with Michele Sarcino, *Enfleshing Theology: Embodiment, Discipleship, and Politics in the Work of M. Shawn Copeland*. Lexington/ Fortress Academic. Forthcoming, October 2018.

Book (forthcoming):

Rivera, Robert J. *A Christology of Liberation in an Age of Globalization and Exclusion*. New York and London: Bloomsbury, T&T Clark, expected Fall 2022.

Book chapter (forthcoming):

Rivera, Robert J. "Theological Anthropology," in Orlando O. Espin, ed. *The Blackwell Companion to Latina/o Theology*.

Book (in progress):

Monograph: Building on previous academic presentations dealing with Puerto Rico, I have begun research for a manuscript tentatively titled, *Teologia en La Brega: Theological Reflections on Debt, Disaster, and Diaspora*. Currently, I have an annotated draft of the outline, and am revising one presentation, which will be one of the book's chapters..
Introduction: Teologia en La Brega (theology rooted/ grounded in the concrete, lived realities of Puerto Rican people attentive to their material practices that help them to deal with their realities...). Chapter 1. Historical Contexts: The Archipelago, and the Big Apple
Chapter 2. Reading St. Anselm in San Juan: Satisfaction Guaranteed? (an engagement with St. Anselm's notion of debt and the ways in which it can be/ is complicit in the making of indebted subjects...) Chapter 3. Creation, Corporations, and Capitalism: "The Battle for Paradise." (A re-reading of the Christian notion of creation in light of Maria. A critique of PR as terra nullius, and the move by corporations to create ex nihilo...) Chapter 4. "From Colonia to Community:" Re-Imagining New Worlds. (a re-thinking of the Christian notion of the kin-dom of God in light of diasporic experiences...) Conclusion: Bregando.

Articles (in progress):

“Migrations, Migrants, and Meanings: A Latinx Theological Perspective on the Bible and Migration.” To be submitted to *New Theology Review*.

“Theology as Critical Knowledge: The Contributions of Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz and Otto Maduro.” To be submitted to the *Journal for Critical Research in Religion*.

Book Review (published):

Review of *In Our Own Voices: Latino/a Renditions in Theology*. Benjamin Valentin, ed. *Journal of Postcolonial Networks* (Spring 2012).

Awards and Fellowships

- Boston College University Fellowship
2007-2012
- North American Doctoral Fellow: Forum for Theological Education
2012-2013
- Donald J. White Award for Excellence in Teaching
2011-2012
- Teaching and Learning Workshop for
Pre-Tenure Religion Faculty at Colleges and Universities, Wabash Center for
Teaching and Learning
2015-16

Presentations

2018 “St. Anselm and the Puerto Rican Debt Crisis.” St. Anselm College, NH.

2018 “Theological Anthropology Today.” Workgroup for Constructive Theology.

2017 “The Relevance and Role of Religion in Light Humanitarian Crises.” Puerto Rican Studies Association Symposium.

2017 “Transcendence and the Transmodern: Dusselian Influences on the Theology of Roberto S. Goizueta.” Beauty and Knowledge, Love and Justice: A Symposium Celebrating the Theological Contributions of Roberto S. Goizueta.

2016 “Migrations, Migrants, and Meanings: A Latinx Theological Reflection on the Bible and Migration.” The Bible and Migration Conference.

2016 “Eucharist in an Age of Globalization and Exclusion: From Communion to the Communal” College Theology Society.

2016 “Reading St. Anselm in San Juan: Satisfaction Guaranteed?” Catholic Theological Society of America.

2014 “What Administrators Need to Know About Racial/Ethnic Students: Restructuring the Academy for Success.” Student Personnel Administrators Conference, Association of Theological Schools

2013 “The Already, But Not Yet: Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Future of Doctoral

Theological Education.” Forum for Theological Education: Doctoral Consultation.

2010 “U.S. Latino/a Theologies” Invitation by Dr. Kwok Pui-Lan, Episcopal Divinity School, Graduate Course: Liberation Theologies.

2008 “Enrique Dussel’s Concept of History.” Boston College Systematic Theology Colloquium.

2008 “Work and Life Balance from the Perspective of a PhD Student” Career Services & The Center for Work and Family, Boston College.

2007 “Racial/Ethnic Representation in Graduate Theological/Religious Studies.” Harvard Divinity School.

Service (Institutional/ Academic)

Undergraduate Education Policies Committee	Fall 2015-Spring 2018
Undergraduate Student Advisor (Majors)	Spring 2015-Spring 2018
Liberal Arts Faculty Council	Fall 2016-Spring 2018
--Elected to Mission Subcommittee	Fall 2016-Fall 2017
--Elected to Assessment Subcommittee	Fall 2016-Fall 2017
RISE Network Faculty Mentor	Fall 2015-present
Supervised Masters Thesis in Theology	Summer 2015- Spring 2016
Co-Convener: Latinx Theology Consultation Catholic Theological Society	2016-2018
Steering Committee Member: Liberation Theologies Group American Academy of Religion	2017-Present

Skills

Fluency in speaking, reading, and writing Spanish; Microsoft Office; Filemaker Pro

Professional Memberships

Member of the American Academy of Religion, Society of Biblical Literature, College Theology Society, Catholic Theological Society of America, and the Puerto Rican Studies Association.

References

M. Shawn Copeland, Professor of Theology (Emeritus)
Boston College
Email: copeland@bc.edu

Roberto S. Goizueta, Professor of Theology (Emeritus)
Boston College
Email: goizueta@bc.edu

Nancy Pineda-Madrid, Assoc. Professor & T. Marie Chilton Chair of Catholic Theology
Loyola Marymount University, University Hall 3845
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