

Asante Todd, PhD
CURRICULUM VITAE

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Education

- 2016: Ph.D., Religion. Vanderbilt University, The Graduate School, The Graduate Department of Religion. Nashville, TN
 - o Dissertation: The One and the Many: A Discourse Analysis of Sovereignty in Liberal Civic Republicanism with Prospects for an African American Political Theology
- 2006: MDiv., Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Austin, TX
- 2002: B.A., (Religious Studies, English). The University of Texas at Austin. Austin, TX

Teaching Experience

- Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 2012-2020
- Associate Professor of Christian Ethics, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 2020-2024

Fellowships, Awards, Honors

- 2019-2020: Wabash Peer Mentoring Cluster Grant
- 2018-2019: Wabash Center Teaching and Learning Grant
- 2017-2018: Wabash Center Teaching and Learning Workshop for Early Career Theological School Faculty
- 2016: Radix - A Fellowship for Protestant Ethics (FPE)
- 2011-2012: The Fund for Theological Education Dissertation Fellowship (now Forum for Theological Exploration, FTE)
- 2006-2012: Lilly Endowment Fellowship in Theology and Practice
- 2006: Austin Presbyterian Seminary Rachel Henderlite Award

Courses Taught (* = Co-teaching experience)

- Introduction to Christian Ethics
- Moral Issues
- Moral Questions in Youth Culture
- African American Religious Ethics
- Religion and American Public Life
- Political Theology
- Theological Ethics and Economics
- Theological Ethics and the Holocaust
- Social Justice
- Faith and Public Policy*
- The Theological Ethics of Martin Luther King Jr.
- Organizing Religion for Social Movements
- Religion and Law

- The Bible, the Public Square and the Public Good*
- Methods in Biblical and Theological Hermeneutics
- Ethnicity, Faith, Race, Nationality, and Gender*
- Theology and Race in South Africa (Travel Seminar)
- Wonder and the Body, Living Justly
- *Kairos*, Conflict, and Community in the Lone Star State*

Publications

Forthcoming Books:

- *The Golden Band: African American Spirituals and the Hermeneutics of World* (Eerdmans Publishing, 2025)
- *Figures and Horizons in Christian Ethics* (Orbis Books, 2025)

Articles and Presentations:

- 2023: "Creative Response: On African American Spirituality," *Insights, The Faculty Journal of Austin Seminary* Spring 2023.
- 2018: "Gun Security", Princeton Theological Seminary Institute for Youth Ministry, <http://iym.ptsem.edu/resources/engage/gun-violence/#tab-id-1>
- 2017: "In Search of Prophetic Missions," fall ed. of *Insights, The Faculty Journal of Austin Seminary*; Fall 2017; Volume 133 Number 1
- 2017: "Black Lives Matter and the New Politics: In Search of a Politics Beyond Categorical Politicization." in *Faith and Resistance in the Age of Trump* ed. by Miguel De La Torre (Orbis Books)
- 2014: "Mass Incarceration, War, and the Great World House", fall edition of *Insights: The Faculty Journal of Austin Seminary*; Fall 2014; Volume 130 Number 1
- 2011: "Thomas Hobbes on Human Nature" in *Beyond the Pale: Reading Ethics from the Margins* edited by Miguel de la Torre and Stacey Floyd Thomas
- 2010: "Postcolonial Theology: A Truly Radical Critique? The Viability of Liberation and Postcolonial Theology for Social Problems." *Postcolonial Theology Network* (Facebook) July 31, (invited)
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/23694574926/permalink/10150189654994927/>

Book Reviews

- 2019: "The Christian Imagination and the Origins of Race" by Willie J. Jennings in *Insights, The Faculty Journal of Austin Seminary*, Fall 2019, Volume 135, Number 1.
- 2014: "Doing Christian Ethics from the Margins" by Miguel de La Torre in *Windows*, Vol. 130 No. 1 Winter 2015

Selected Lectures, Papers, and Presentations

- 2020: Wesley Seminary Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Lecture (Invited): "Dogma, Sovereignty, and the Great World House" (Washington, D.C.)
- 2020: Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference (Invited): "Who is My Neighbor: Palestine, the U.S. Mexico Border, and Kingian Ethics" (Arlington, VA)

- 2019: The Love of the Cross: On Cross and Resurrection in the thinking of Martin Luther King Jr.” (May 12, Tarrytown United Methodist Church, Austin, TX)
- 2019: Cross and Resurrection Series (St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, Austin, TX)
 - o The Word of the Cross: Reinhold Niebuhr (Apr. 7)
 - o The Refuge of the Cross: Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Apr. 14)
 - o Reincorporating the Cross: Samuel Wells (Apr. 28)
 - o The Love of the Cross: Martin Luther King Jr. (May 5)
 - o From Cross of Christ to Abundant Life: Delores Williams (May 5)
- 2019: “The Water Crisis in Theological Perspective”, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, (Feb. 15, part of the Pastoral Leadership for Public Life)
- 2017: “Reinhold Niebuhr: An Enduring Legacy” (Westminster Presbyterian Church, Austin, TX, October 8)
- 2017: “The African American Electorate in the 2016 Presidential Election” (Invited Paper, Society of Christian Ethics, New Orleans, January 8)
- 2016: “Biopolitics and the New Jim Crow” (Invited Lecture, The University of Texas at Austin, November 4, 2016)
- 2016: “The Separation of Powers, the Rule of Law and Revolutionary Politics: On Hannah Arendt” (Invited paper, *Radix* Symposium - a diverse community of scholars at once critically appreciative of their common roots and radically committed to the church's social witness, Baylor University, Waco, TX, June 24)
- 2015: “The Cruel Hand, the Birdcage, and the Fire this Time: A Theological Reflection on The New Jim Crow” (Invited Lecture, Seminary of the Southwest, Austin, TX, February 2)
- 2014: “On Marginality: Marginality in the Thought of Iris Marion Young and Orlando Patterson.” (Settles Lecture Response, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Austin, TX, April 10)
- 2013: “Governing Risk: Detention and Incarceration in the Analytics of Government” (American Academy of Religion, November 25, *in absentia*)
- 2013: “The Origins of Totalitarianism”: Totalitarianism according to Hannah Arendt (Philosophy Club Lecture, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Austin, TX, November 13)
- 2008: The Grandeur of Reason: Religion, Tradition, and Universalism “Love, Torture, and the Limits of the State”, Rome, Italy (Paper Listed as “Spirit, Law, and the Other: A Theological Approach to Bare Life Biopolitics”)
- 2008: A National Summit on Torture: Religious Faith, Torture, and Our National Soul, “A Theological View on Human Rights and the Limits of the State”, Sponsored by

Evangelicals for Human Rights (now The New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good.) Atlanta, Georgia (Invited, September 11-12)

Collaborative Projects

Pastoral Leadership for Public Life (PLPL) – The program commits pastors and other public leaders to learning in a community seeking to broaden their awareness of public life, increase confidence for engaging public life, gain perspectives on intercultural leadership and enhance their capacity for theological reflection on the common good.

HESED Lecture Series: Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary (2013 – Present). *HESED* is a student birthed lecture series in collaboration with faculty that focuses on social issues among oppressed and underrepresented groups in light of the biblical call to *hesed* – to justice, mercy and loving-kindness. Students, faculty, and local communities dialogue with professionals on issues relevant to these communities. The lectureship emerged organically among students and is now officially sponsored by the institution.

Curriculum Project: “Promised Land” (2013) – This unit of the curriculum project develops students’ abilities to read closely for textual details and compare authors’ perspectives through an examination of a series of texts on the question of church and state in the US context. Oriented around questions of church and state (i.e., disestablishment), religion and participatory democracy, and religion and social justice. Done in collaboration with Odell Education.

Non-Profit

Austin Area Urban League: Project Manager and Director, Austin Area Urban League. Austin, TX

Texas State Legislature: Policy Intern, 79th Legislative Session, Texas State House of Representatives. Austin, TX

Academic Associations and Professional Development

- American Academy of Religion
- Society of Christian Ethics
- The Society of Biblical Literature
- Constructive Theology Workgroup
- Hispanic Summer Program
- Wabash Center for Early Career Theological School Faculty
- The Forum for Theological Exploration
- Lilly Endowment Early Career Pastoral Leadership Development Initiative