

Curriculum Vitae

**Gregory Duane Jones, Jr., Ph.D.**

Adjunct Professor  
Duquesne University  
Department of Theology  
Email: jonesg3@duq.edu

---

**EDUCATION**

- 2023: **Ph.D. in Systematic Theology, Duquesne University**  
Dissertation: *Contestant Theology: Toward a Play Theology of Religions*  
Directors: Daniel P. Scheid, Marinus C. Iwuchukwu  
Committee: Anna Floerke-Scheid, William M. Wright, IV
- 2017: **M.A. in Theology, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Valedictorian**  
Thesis: *Homo Resumens: Play Theology Unearths Openness to the Sabbath*  
Director: Rev. Dr. John P. Burgess
- 2005: **B.A. in Broadcast Journalism and English, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Magna Cum Laude**

---

**ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

- 2022— Adjunct Professor, Duquesne University
- 2020-2022: Teaching Fellow, Duquesne University
- 2018-2020: Graduate Teaching Assistant, Duquesne University

---

**PUBLICATIONS**

***Book Chapters***

- 2023: "Final FantaSi' VII: Role-Playing the Eco-Ethics of *Laudato Si'*" in *The World of Final Fantasy VII: Essays on the Game and its Legacy*, edited by Jason C. Cash, Craig T. Olsen, and Matthew W. Kapell. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2023.

***Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles***

- 2022: "Video Gaming Faith: Playing Out Theologies of Religions," *Religions*. 2022, 13, 944.  
<https://doi.org/10.3390/rel13100944>.
- 2018: "Sabbath-Keeping is Child's Play: Exploring The Symbiosis of Play and the Sabbath," *Pittsburgh Theological Journal*. Autumn 2018: 111-136.
- 2017: "There Can Only Be One: Canaanite Influences On Psalm 82," *Pittsburgh Theological Journal*. Autumn 2017: 75-94.
- 2016: "The Ethics of Remembering," *Pittsburgh Theological Journal*. Spring 2016: 78-92.  
[https://issuu.com/pittsburghseminary/docs/journal\\_2017/78](https://issuu.com/pittsburghseminary/docs/journal_2017/78).
- 2015: "Embracing the Mystery of the Divine," *Pittsburgh Theological Journal*. Spring 2015: 10-21.  
[https://issuu.com/pittsburghseminary/docs/ptj\\_2015\\_web\\_final/12](https://issuu.com/pittsburghseminary/docs/ptj_2015_web_final/12).

**Book Reviews**

- 2022: Review of Connor Kelly's *The Fullness of Free Time: A Theological Account Leisure and Recreation in the Moral Life* in *Journal of Moral Theology* (June)
- 2020: Review of Patrick M. Kelly's *Youth Sport and Spirituality: Catholic Perspectives* in *Religious Studies Review* (25 Apr.)

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

---

- 2024: "Immortal X-Men: The Mutant Metaphor of Immortality," PCA/ACA Conference 2024, Chicago, IL (Mar.)
- 2023: "'For We Too Are His Offspring': Pushing the Buttons With Differing Others in Interreligious Relationality," Mid-Atlantic PCA/ACA 2023, Philadelphia, PA (9 Nov.)
- "And Have Our Being: Breathing With Other Religions as 'Con' Artists," PCA/ACA Conference 2023, San Antonio, TX (4 Apr.)
- "Somewhere in Between: Outplaying Sin and Death in the Law of the Spirit," Southwest PCA/ACA 44th Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM (25 Feb.)
- 2022: "The Space Between the Single-Winged Angels: Xenogears Frames the Interreligious Encounter," Mid-Atlantic PCA/ACA 2022 Virtual Conference, (10 Nov.)
- "Fighting Fear into Friendship: Goku Embodies the Interreligious Encounter," Midwest PCA/ACA, Chicago, IL (14 Oct.)
- "Contestant Theology: Toward a Play Theology of Religions," PCA/ACA Virtual Conference 2022 (15 Apr.)
- "Super Apocalypso 64: Inhabiting Revelation as a Video Game Made of Sacred Words" Far West PCA/ACA 34th Annual Conference, (Virtual) Las Vegas, NV (5 Mar.)
- 2021: "Is That Even Your Own Idea?" A Biblio-Theological Consideration of The S3 Plan in *Metal Gear Solid 2*," Mid-Atlantic PCA/ACA 2021 Virtual Conference, (12 Nov.)
- "Leaving the World the Way It Is: A Biblio-Theological Consideration of the Ethics of The Boss's Vision in the Metal Gear Solid Series," Midwest PCA/ACA, Minneapolis, MN (8 Oct.)
- "Can Retrogaming Be a Spiritual Experience? Toward a Retrogame Theology!" The Popular/American Culture Association in the South, (Virtual) New Orleans, LA (1 Oct.)
- "Video Gaming Faith: Playing Out Theologies of Religions," PCA/ACA Virtual Conference 2021 (4 June)
- "Digital Theophany: Enoch as Adaptable Player and Imprecise Playground," Southwest PCA/ACA 42nd Annual Conference, (Virtual) Albuquerque, NM (22 Feb.)
- "Foucault Fantasy VI: A Role Playground for Postcolonial Thought," Far West PCA/ACA 33rd Annual Conference, (Virtual) Las Vegas, NV (20 Feb.)
- 2020: "Video Gaming Enoch: Playing Out a Theophanic Narrative," Midwest PCA/ACA, (Virtual) Minnesota, MN (2 Oct.)
- "Ethitainment: Pop-Culture Confronts the Moral Oddness in John Rawls's Theory of Justice," Far West PCA/ACA' 32nd Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV (22 Feb.)

2019: "Final FantaSi' VII: Role-Playing the Eco-Ethics of Laudato Si,'" Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association 2019 Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA (7 Nov.)

## **UPCOMING PROJECTS**

---

2024: Chapter for *Black Apologetics: Reflections on the Viability of Christian Faith*

TBA: Book: *Contestant Theology: Toward a Play Theology of Religions*

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

---

### *Duquesne University*

#### Undergraduate:

Fall 2023: BRDGS 105T Introduction to Ethical Reasoning; THEO 142 Theological Views of the Person

Summer 2023: THEO 143-01 Global and Cultural Perspectives

Spring 2023: THEO 216-01 Religion, Media, & Pop-Culture; BRDG-105T Introduction to Ethical Reasoning

Fall 2022: THEO 152-02 Theological Ethics

Spring 2022: THEO 216-02 Religion, Media, and Pop-Culture

Fall 2021: HONR 154-01 Will We Find Faith in Media?

Spring 2021: UCOR 141-02 Biblical and Historical Perspectives

Fall 2020: UCOR 143-02 Global and Cultural Perspectives

#### Undergraduate Classes Taught as a Graduate Teaching Assistant:

Spring 2020: UCOR 152: "Albert Nolan, *Jesus Before Christianity*, Part Three" (3/11/20)  
"Albert Nolan, *Jesus Before Christianity*, Part Two" (3/9/20)

Fall 2019: THEO 283: "The Christian West, Modernity and Global Civilization" (10/22/19)  
"What Christians & Muslims Need to know About Judaism" (9/17/19)  
"The Cosmic Dance of Dialogue & What is Dialogue" (9/3/19)  
THEO/AFST 264: "Rwanda, Genocide, and the Catholic Church" (10/17/19)  
UCOR 152: "James Keenan - Moral Wisdom - Conscience" (10/17/19)  
"James Keenan - Moral Wisdom - Mercy and Virtue" (9/5/19)

Spring 2019: UCOR 152: "Earth Solidarity" (4/11/19)

Fall 2018: UCOR 142: "Learning and Enjoying God's Space and Time for Rest" (11/16/18)  
"Indigenous Traditions; The New Age Message" (11/5/18)  
UCOR 143: "Jesus and Buddha Discussion" (11/7/18)  
"Second Isaiah and the Birth-Death of the Messiah" (9/28/18)  
"Exodus and Isaiah: God Makes a People for Himself" (9/21/18)  
UCOR 142: "Actual Sin" (10/12/18)

## **HONORS**

---

2023: The Common Good Research Award, Duquesne University

2017: The Robert A. Lee Church History Prize, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary  
The Sylvester S. Marvin Memorial Fellowship, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary  
The Thomas Jamison Scholarship, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

- 2016: The Ford Lewis Battles and Marion Davis Battles Scholarship, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
- 2014: The Carl A. Hiaasen Honors Scholarship, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

---

## MEMBERSHIPS

---

Popular Culture Association

---

## SERVICE

---

### *Academic*

- 2019-2022: Duquesne University Theology Graduate Organization, President
- 2016: Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Church History Professor Search Committee

### *Church*

#### First Baptist Church of Bridgeville, PA:

- 2013— Webmaster: Maintains the web page, provides YouTube recordings of services and studies.
- 2005— Sunday School Coordinator: plans, conducts, and evaluates the Sunday School.
- Sunday School Teacher: leads weekly in-person lessons and creates online lesson recordings/summaries using the Urban Ministries, Inc. Curriculum.
- Vacation Bible School Coordinator: purchasing supplies, enlisting assistance, and developing an original curriculum for the summer VBS

### *Community*

#### TheOne MusicFest:

- 2021— Moderator, "Building Bridges" Discussion Series
- 2018— Master of Ceremonies, Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

---

## MEDIA APPEARANCES

---

- 2020: Panelist, VOXXGH's "Discussion of Racism in America." <https://youtu.be/GNW4wDAZTRg>.

---

## OTHER EMPLOYMENT

---

- 2005-2014: Senior Production Coordinator, VITAC Closed Captioning, Canonsburg, PA

---

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

---

### *Languages*

Koine Greek, Biblical Hebrew, English

### *Research and Other Interests*

- Theological: Play Theology/Theology of Play, Theologies of Religions, Christian Metaphysics
- Global: World Christianity and World Religions,
- Cultural: Religion and Pop-Culture Studies, Theology and Game Studies
- Biblical: Old/New Testament Studies
- Historical: Patristic and Medieval Christian Spirituality, American Religious Biographies
- Ethics: Global Restorative Justice Paradigm, Christian and Philosophical Stances
- Other: Video Gaming, Virtual Worlds, Jogging, Comics/Graphic Novels, Landscaping