

## Erik M. Norvelle

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Nationality: U.S.A.

Date of birth: April 16, 1968

### Professional and Academic Objectives

I seek to put my prior training in computer technologies and linguistics at the service of my life's interest in natural science, philosophy of nature and theology, in the context of specialization in the Aristotelian-Thomistic philosophical tradition at the doctoral and post-doctoral levels, with the goal of obtaining an academic position as researcher and professor in a university setting.

### Areas of Specialization

Classical and Contemporary Philosophy of Nature (primary)  
Classical and Contemporary Philosophy of Mind  
20th Century Philosophy of Language  
Information Technologies as Research Tools

### Education

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Navarra, 2009 (Expected)

D.E.A. Philosophy, University of Navarra, 2007, *Summa Cum Laude*

M.A. Philosophy, University of Navarra, 2005, *Summa Cum Laude*

B.A. Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley, 1992, *Cum Laude*

### Research Experience

Visiting Scholar Jan. — May 2009  
Dr. Alessandro Ghisalberti and Dr. Savina Raynaud Catholic University of the Sacred Heart,  
Milan (Italy)  
Invited by Drs. Ghisalberti and Raynaud, I am currently performing a research stay at the Catholic University of Milan. This research stay will also serve as partial fulfillment of the

## Curriculum Vitae — Erik Norvelle

requirements for obtaining the special mention *Doctor Europaeus*, additional to my Degree of Doctor from Spain.

Research Assistant 2005—present  
Dr. Enrique Alarcón University of Navarra

Named as Ayudante in the Department of Philosophy of the University of Navarra, under the directorship of Enrique Alarcón, to study the theory of nature in Aristotle and Aquinas. Results to be published in my doctoral dissertation; partial results presented in my Interim Dissertation (*Trabajo de investigación*) in August 2007.

Research Assistant 2003—2005  
Dr. Enrique Alarcón University of Navarra

Investigation of authenticity of a newly-discovered text, thought to be portions of the lost *Lectura romana* (a second commentary on the *Sentences* of Peter Lombard), using stylometry to compare this text with the known Thomistic corpus contained in the Index Thomisticus. Stylometry results presented as my Master's thesis. 'Semantic' comparison algorithm used as basis for extension to Index Thomisticus search engine (see below).

### Teaching Experience

Lecturer, Introduction to Philosophy (School of Theology), University of Navarra, Fall 2009

Guest Lecturer, Philosophy of Mind (lower-division), University of Navarra, Fall 2007

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Philosophy (lower-division), University of Navarra, Fall 2006 and 2007

Instructor, Introduction to Programming, Center for Talented Youth (Spain), 2004-2005

Instructor, Linux and System Administration, Extended University (University of Arizona), 1999-2003

### Conferences Attended

Venice Summer School on Science and Religion, May 2008 (God and the Laws of Nature). Attended with scholarship from the Templeton Foundation. Resulting article submitted for publication.

XLIV Philosophical Meetings (The Natural Law). University of Navarra, Spring 2006 (Attendee and translator of several conference papers).

XLIII Philosophical Meetings (A Panorama of Current Research on Thomas Aquinas). University of Navarra, Spring 2005 (Conference translator: simultaneous translations of keynotes, round tables and readings of papers).

### Publications and Theses

“Old Things Made New: Aristotle’s Proof for a First Unmoved Mover in the Context of Modern Theories of Physical Law.” Submitted for publication to *Theology and Science*, February 2009.

“Un caso medievale di intertestualità complessa: ‘forma’ nel commento di Sto. Tommaso alle Sentenze di Pietro Lombardo” [A Medieval Case of Complex Intertextuality: ‘Form’ in Aquinas’s Commentary on the Sentences of Peter Lombard]. In preparation.

“Aristotle’s Comprehensive Argument for Higher Φύσις,” an article derived from my Interim Dissertation of 2007. In preparation.

“The Evolution of Φύσις as a Technical Term in Aristotle,” an article derived from my Interim Dissertation of 2007. In preparation.

“The Justification of the Existence of Natures in the Physics of Aristotle,” an Interim Dissertation presented in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Diploma of Advanced Studies (2007).

“The Authorship of the Roman Commentary: Stylometric and Semantic Approaches to Authorship Identification,” a Thesis presented in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts (2005). Unpublished, but cited in the introduction to Aquinas, T., *Lectura romana in primum Sententiarum Petri Lombardi*, Boyle, L.E. OP and Boyle, John F. (eds.): Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Toronto, 2006.

Jennifer Ricketts, Frederick H. Wolfe, Erik Norvelle, and Edwin H. Carpenter, *Multimedia: Asynchronous Distributed Education—A Review and Case Study*. Social Science Computer Review, May 2000; 18: 132 - 146.

Edwin H. Carpenter, Fred H. Wolfe, Jennifer Ricketts, and Erik Norvelle, *Telecommunications/Multimedia: Distributed Learning Course Creation*. Social Science Computer Review, Aug 1999; 17: 357 - 381.

### Seminars and Presentations

“Un caso medievale di intertestualità complessa: ‘forma’ nel commento di Sto. Tommaso alle Sentenze di Pietro Lombardo”, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Milan (Italy), March 24, 2009.

“TextCite, a New Tool for Academic Research,” University of Navarra, Spain, October 24, 2007.

“An Introduction to the Use of the Index Thomisticus on the Web,” National University of Ireland (Maynooth), Ireland, December 14, 2005.

### **Research Support Software**

Norvelle, E.: TextCite, a textual citation manager, designed to store, organize, comment and export textual citations from academic publications. It works with bibliographic management programs like Citation, EndNote, RefWorks, and BibTeX, providing important text/citation management capabilities that these programs lack, while still allowing for rapid footnote and bibliography generation by means of bibliography managers. It also exports to PDF and Word (RTF).

Alarcón, E. and Norvelle, E.: Lexical Correlation Map, an extension to the online version of the Index Thomisticus, the Lexical Correlation Map uses mathematical methods to approximate ‘semantic’ relationships between terms used by St. Thomas Aquinas in his corpus; the several algorithms used are based on measurements of word co-occurrences.

Norvelle, E.: Thinking Cap, a web application designed to provide an online forum for doing collaborative philosophy in the Medieval Scholastic manner, following the method of the *disputatio* (as followed by Thomas Aquinas).

### **Fellowships and Awards**

Research Scholarship, Fundación Tomás de Aquino, 2009

Doctoral Fellowship, Friends of the University of Navarra, 2005-2009

Phi Beta Kappa, 1992

### **Languages Spoken and Read**

English (native speaker)

Spanish (fluency in speaking and reading)

Italian (very good reading/good speaking ability)

French (very good reading/basic speaking ability)

German (good reading/basic speaking ability)

Latin (Medieval: very good reading ability; Classical: good reading ability)

Ancient Greek (good reading ability)

Portuguese (basic reading ability)

**Employment Prior to Graduate Studies**

Educational Communications and  
Technology, University of Arizona  
Support Systems Analyst, Sr.

Tucson, AZ

1997—2003

Head computer specialist for the Distributed Learning Office of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, providing services in the areas of computer application development, distributed/distance learning technologies, multimedia and video creation, networking security and administration.