

## **RICHARD FRANCIS CRANE**

Professor of History  
Benedictine College  
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### **Education:**

PhD in History, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, 1994

Major field: Modern European History; minor field: Modern East Asian History

Dissertation: "The French Conscience of General Louis Eugène Faucher: Honor, Appeasement, and Resistance" (advisors Joel R. Blatt and Ronald E. Coons)

MA in History, University of Connecticut, 1987

BA in History, Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, CT, 1986

### **Teaching:**

Professor and Chair, Department of History, Benedictine College, 2013-present; tenured, 2015; appointed chair 2024

Courses taught: Early Modern Europe, Europe 1848-1914, Europe Since 1945, French Revolution and Napoleon, Genocide in History (special topics course), Historical Methods and Historiography, The Holocaust, The Interwar Crisis (senior seminar), The Modern World (team-taught Great Books course), Propaganda (team-taught Discovery Seminar) The Reformation Era, Russian History, Vichy France (senior seminar), World Civilization since 1500, World War I, World War II

Professor and Chair, Department of History, Greensboro College, 1997-2013; appointed chair 1998 (served until 2007); promoted to associate professor, 2000; tenured, 2001; promoted to professor, 2004; curator of Levy-Loewenstein Holocaust Collection (2001-13); coordinator of annual Karl Schleunes Lecture in Holocaust and Genocide Studies (2008-13); awards including Alumni Outstanding Teaching Award, 2000 and Moore Professorship (2010-11)

Courses taught: Historiography, Modern Political Thought, Second World War, The Holocaust, History of Christianity, Modern French History, Modern British History, Human Inquiry (team-taught Honors course), Contemporary Global Issues (team-taught Honors course), World History I and II, First Year Seminar

Assistant Professor of History, Grambling State University, Grambling, LA, 1996-97

Courses taught: Historiography, Introduction to Military History, World History I and II

Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, 1995-96

Courses taught: Twentieth Century Europe, Western Civilization II

Visiting Assistant Professor of History, University of Connecticut, 1994-95

Courses taught: Personality and Power in the Twentieth Century, Twentieth Century Europe, Western Civilization II

### **Books:**

*Passion of Israel: Jacques Maritain, Catholic Conscience, and the Holocaust* (University of Scranton Press, 2010; Wipf and Stock, 2014).

*A French Conscience in Prague: Louis Eugène Faucher and the Abandonment of Czechoslovakia* (East European Monographs, 1996).

### **Articles and essays (\* peer-reviewed):**

“A Prayer for Richard Williamson,” *Catholic World Report*, February 7, 2005,  
<https://www.catholicworldreport.com/2025/02/07/a-prayer-for-richard-williamson/>

“How Jacques Maritain went from antisemite to Catholic champion of the Jewish people,” *America* 231 (2) (September 2024), <https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2024/08/22/jacques-maritain-nostra-aetate-holocaust-248539>

\*“Père Merklen’s War: Editing France’s Catholic Newspaper During the Dark Years,” *The Catholic Historical Review* 107 (1) (winter 2021).

“The Holocaust and Human Perfection,” *Fellowship of Catholic Scholars Quarterly* 41 (3) (fall 2018).

“Witnessing to Truth: *Nostra Aetate* and the New Evangelization,” *Homiletic and Pastoral Review*, June 27, 2015, <http://www.hprweb.com/2015/06/witnessing-to-truth/>

\*“Jacques Maritain, the Holocaust, and the Future of Catholic-Jewish Relations,” *Études maritainiennes-Maritain Studies* 30 (2014).

“The Black Legend of Pius XII: Can a sober assessment of history rehabilitate the World War II pontiff?” *Aleteia*, May 18, 2014, <http://www.aleteia.org/en/religion/article/the-black-legend-of-pius-xii-5894655531024384>

\*“Cracks in the Theology of Contempt: The French Roots of *Nostra Aetate*,” *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations* 8 (2013), <http://ejournals.bc.edu/ojs/index.php/scjr/article/view/5265> (co-authored with Brenna Moore).

\*“Heart-Rending Ambivalence: Jacques Maritain and the Complexities of Postwar Catholic Philosemitism.” *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations* 6 (1) (2011), <http://ejournals.bc.edu/ojs/index.php/scjr/article/view/1820>

\*"Jacques Maritain, the Mystery of Israel, and the Holocaust," *The Catholic Historical Review* 95 (1) (winter 2009).

\*“Surviving Maurras: Jacques Maritain’s Jewish Question,” *Patterns of Prejudice* 42 (4-5) (fall 2008).

\*“Laicization and its Discontents in Early Twentieth-Century France,” (review essay) *The Catholic Historical Review* 93 (3) (summer 2007).

“Maritain’s True Humanism,” *First Things* (February 2005).  
<http://www.firstthings.com/article/2005/02/maritains-true-humanism>

\*"La Croix and the Swastika: The Ambiguities of Catholic Responses to the Fall of France," *The Catholic Historical Review* 90 (1) (winter 2004).

“Were military factors the sole reason for the German defeat of France in 1940?” in *History in Dispute: Twentieth-Century European Social and Political Movements*, ed. Paul du Quenoy (Farmington Hills, MI: Gale Group, 2004).

\*“Stricken Field: Martha Gellhorn and Louis Eugène Faucher in Prague, 1938,” *East European Quarterly* 33 (4) (winter 1999).

“Ethics in History: A French Conscience,” in *Explorations in Ethics: Readings from Across the Curriculum*, ed. Philip A. Rolnick (Greensboro, NC: Greensboro College Press, 1998).

### **Reference work entries:**

“Jacques Maritain,” in *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception, Volume 17*, ed. Christine Helmer, et al. (Berlin: DeGruyter, 2019).

“Marc Bloch,” in *The Encyclopedia of Protest and Revolution in World History*, ed. Immanuel Ness and Geoffroy de Laforcaade (New York: Facts on File, 2009).

“Georges Bernanos,” “Paul Claudel,” “Jacques Maritain,” in *Encyclopedia of Modern Christian Politics*, ed. Roy P. Domenico and Mark Y. Hanley (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2006).

“Franco-Czechoslovak Alliance,” in *The Encyclopedia of Eastern Europe*, ed. Richard Frucht (New York: Garland Publishing, 2000).

“Charles Delestraint,” “Louis Eugène Faucher,” “Alphonse Georges,” “Le Chambon-sur-Lignon,” “Maginot Line,” in *The Historical Dictionary of World War II France*, ed. Bertram M. Gordon (Westport, CT; Greenwood Press, 1998).

## Book reviews:

Sarah Shortall, *Soldiers of God in a Secular World: Catholic Theology and Twentieth-Century French Politics*, in *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 92 (1) (March 2023).

Julia Elsky, *Writing Occupation: Jewish Émigré Voices in Wartime France*, in *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, 36 (3) (winter 2022) (co-authored with Daphne McConnell).

Daniel Lee, *Pétain's Jewish Children: French Jewish Youth and the Vichy Regime, 1940-1942*, in *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 30 (3) (winter 2016).

Jean Guéhenno, *Diary of the Dark Years: Collaboration, Resistance, and Everyday Life in Occupied Paris*, in *History: Reviews of New Books* 44 (2) (July 2016).

Brenna Moore, *Sacred Dread: Raïssa Maritain, the Allure of Suffering, and the French Catholic Revival (1905-1944)*; and Antoine Arjakovsky, *The Way: Russian Thinkers of the Orthodox Emigration and Their Journal, 1925-1940*, in *Theological Studies* 75 (4) (December 2014).

Moore, *Sacred Dread*, in *Horizons: The Journal of the College Theology Society* 41 (1) (June 2014).

Moore, *Sacred Dread*, in *The Catholic Historical Review* 100 (2) (spring 2014).

Bernard and Bernadette Chovelon, *Bruckberger, l'enfant terrible*, in *The Catholic Historical Review*, 100 (1) (winter 2014).

Julie Kalman, *Rethinking Antisemitism in Nineteenth-Century France*, in *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies* 31 (2) (winter 2013).

Jacques Prévotat, *Pie XI et la France: L'apport des archives du pontificat de Pie XI à la connaissance des rapports entre le Saint-Siège et la France*, in *The Catholic Historical Review* 99 (1) (winter 2013).

Jean-Pierre Guérend, *Le moine, le prêtre et le general. Les frères Lalande ou le dépassement de soi*, in *The Catholic Historical Review* 97 (1) (winter 2011).

Shannon Fogg, *The Politics of Everyday Life in Vichy France: Foreigners, Undesirables, and Strangers*, in *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 24 (3) (winter 2010).

Jean-Claude Delbreil, *La Revue «La Vie intellectuelle»: Marc Sangnier, le thomisme et le personnalisme*, in *The Catholic Historical Review* 96 (4) (fall 2010).

Robert Celestin and Eliane DalMolin, *France from 1851 to the Present: Universalism in Crisis*, in *European History Quarterly* 40 (3) (July 2010).

Jonathan Judaken, *Jean-Paul Sartre and the Jewish Question: Anti-antisemitism and the Politics of the French Intellectual*, published on H-Judaic, January 2010:

<http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=24500>

Suzanne Vromen, *Hidden Children of the Holocaust: Belgian Nuns and Their Daring Rescue of Young Jews from the Nazis*, in *The Journal of Church and State* 51 (2) (spring 2009).

Giovanni Capoccia, *Defending Democracy: Reactions to Extremism in Interwar Europe*, in *History: Reviews of New Books* 33 (4) (summer 2005).

Jacqueline Lalouette and Jean-Pierre Machelon, *Les congregations hors la loi?: Autour de la loi du 1er juillet 1901*; and André Lanfrey, *Sécularisation, separation, et guerre scolaire (1901-1914)*, in *The Catholic Historical Review* 90 (4) (fall 2004).

Hugh Ragsdale, *The Soviets, the Munich Crisis, and the Coming of World War II*, in *History: Reviews of New Books* 33 (1) (fall 2004).

Roger Chickering and Stig Förster, eds., *The Shadows of Total War: Europe, East Asia, and the United States, 1919-1939*, in *History: Reviews of New Books* 31 (4) (summer 2003).

Yehuda Bauer, *Rethinking the Holocaust*, in *History: Reviews of New Books* 29 (3) (spring 2001).

Paul G. Lewis, *Central Europe Since 1945*, in *The History Teacher* 31 (1) (November 1997).

### **Selected presentations:**

‘A Historical Look at Catholics and Antisemitism,’ Catholics and Antisemitism—Facing the Past, Shaping the Future conference, Washington, DC, March 2025.

“*Nostra Aetate*: What It Meant and Why It was Needed,” *Nostra Aetate* and The Future of Catholic-Jewish Relations at a Time of Rising Antisemitism conference, Steubenville, OH, October 2023.

“Père Merklen’s War: Editing France’s Catholic Newspaper During the Dark Years,” American Catholic Historical Association annual meeting, New York, NY, January 2020.

“The Holocaust and Human Perfection,” Fellowship of Catholic Scholars annual convention, Atchison, KS, October 2018.

“French Catholics and the Holocaust,” 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Karl Schleunes Lecture in Holocaust Studies, Greensboro, NC, April 2018.

“Broken Glass and Jewish Venom: French Catholic Intellectuals and the Jewish Question on the Eve of the Holocaust,” 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholars’ Conference on the Churches and the Holocaust, Dallas, TX, March 2018.

Comment: “Recent Research in the History of Catholicism and Politics,” American Catholic Historical Association annual meeting, Denver, CO, January 2017.

“Jacques Maritain and the Future of Catholic-Jewish Relations,” keynote address, Canadian Jacques Maritain Association fall symposium, Toronto, ON, November 2013.

“Vatican II and the Jews: A French Connection,” (co-author Brenna Moore) Vatican II Reconsidered conference, Canton, OH, May 2012.

“Jacques Maritain and the Christian Question after Auschwitz,” Western Society for French History annual meeting Lafayette, LA, October 2010.

“Surviving Maurras: Jacques Maritain’s Jewish Question,” Society for French Historical Studies annual meeting, Houston, TX, March 2007.

“Jacques Maritain and Jewish-Catholic Relations,” Association of Holocaust Organizations winter seminar, Washington, DC, January 2007.

“Jacques Maritain after the Holocaust,” Conference on Faith and History biennial meeting, Tulsa, OK, September 2006.

“Jacques Maritain, the Mystery of Israel, and the Holocaust,” American Catholic Historical Association spring meeting, Worcester, MA, April 2006.

“Jacques Maritain and the End of History,” American Maritain Association annual meeting, Atlanta, GA, October 2004.

“Jacques Maritain’s Incarnational and Natural Law Sense of History,” Written on the Heart: The Tradition of Natural Law special conference, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI, May 2004.

“The End of an Age: Jacques Maritain and the Second World War,” American Maritain Association annual meeting, Chicago, IL, October 2003.

“French Catholicism and the Theodicy of National Disaster: *La Croix*, 1940,” Western Society for French History annual meeting, Baltimore, MD, October 2002.

“When Did It Become Likely that France Would Lose a Second World War?” roundtable discussion at Society for French Historical Studies annual meeting, Chapel Hill, NC, March 2001.

“Martha Gellhorn, General Faucher, and the Literary Polemic in *A Stricken Field*,” World War II: A Fifty-Year Perspective conference, Loudonville, NY, June 1995.

“France After the Liberation: National Regeneration and the Ambiguities of Collective Memory,” Connecticut Historical Society Symposium: The End of World War II and the Remaking of Europe, May 1995.

“‘Un résistant avant la Résistance’: Louis Eugène Faucher,” Western Society for French History annual meeting, Missoula, MT, October 1993.

**Grants, fellowships, seminars:**

June 2016, Fides et Ratio Seminar: Christian Learning, Catholic Education, Christian Living, Franciscan Renewal Center, Scottsdale, AZ

June 2012, Summer Institute on the Holocaust and Jewish Civilization, Holocaust Education Foundation, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

June-July 2011, Annual Seminar for Seminary and Religious Studies Faculty, "Transforming Troubling Tellings: The History of the Deicide Charge and the Holocaust," Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC

June-July 2009, Seminar in Christian Scholarship, "Deliver Us from Evil: Genocide and the Christian World," Calvin College

2006-07, Hoffberger Family Fellowship, Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

2006-07, Christopher Browning Research Fellowship, Holocaust Educational Foundation

January 2005, Jack and Anita Hess Faculty Seminar, "Antisemitism and the Holocaust in World War II France," Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

June-July 2003, Seminar in Christian Scholarship, "Written on the Heart: The Tradition of Natural Law," Calvin College

June-July 1998, Beeke-Levy Research Fellowship, Franklin Delano Roosevelt Presidential Library, Hyde Park, NY

**Professional memberships:**

American Catholic Historical Association  
Society for French Historical Studies

**Professional service:**

Current Philos Catholic advisory board member

Former H-Catholic Advisory Board member

Peer reviewer for Catholic University of America Press, *The Catholic Historical Review*, *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, *The Journal of Church and State*, *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, *Reflections Historiques/Historical Reflections*, *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations*, *U.S. Catholic Historian*

**Committee Service at Benedictine College:**

Arts and Convocation Committee  
Curriculum Committee (secretary)  
Graduate Studies Committee  
President's Advisory Committee  
Rank and Tenure Committee (chair)  
Teacher Education Committee  
Dean of Faculty, History, Philosophy, Political Science, and Spanish search committees

**Committee Service at Greensboro College:**

Academic Review Committee  
Assessment Committee  
Faculty Affairs Committee (chair)  
Honors Committee  
Institutional Assessment Committee  
Museum and Archives Committee  
Scholastic Standing Committee  
Teacher Education Committee  
History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Religion search committees