

**Dr. MARIA SILVIA VACCAREZZA**

Personal webpage: [http://filosofia.dafist.unige.it/?post\\_type=dipendente&p=146](http://filosofia.dafist.unige.it/?post_type=dipendente&p=146)

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ResearchGate: [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Maria\\_Silvia\\_Vaccarezza](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Maria_Silvia_Vaccarezza)

**CAREER**

**Sept. 2018 – to date**

Assistant Professor of Moral Philosophy. Department of Classics, Philosophy and History, University of Genoa, Genoa, Italy.

**Fall semester 2018**

Visiting research scholar. Thumos Group, CISA Center for Affective Sciences. Université de Genève (CH). Project on negative emotions.

**June 2014 – June 2018**

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow. Department of Classics, Philosophy and History, University of Genoa, Genoa, Italy. Appointed for a research project financed by the Italian Ministry of Education (PRIN 2012). Research project: Attention and moral imagination in contemporary ethics.

**January 2012 – December 2015**

Research Fellow, CUC - Centro Universitario Cattolico (Rome).  
Research Project: Realism and attention in Iris Murdoch and Simone Weil.

**May 4, 2012**

PhD in Philosophy - University of Genoa. Dissertation: *Le ragioni del contingente. La saggezza pratica tra Aristotele e Tommaso d'Aquino (Practical reason in Aristotle and Aquinas)*.

**September 2009 – January 2010**

Visiting Doctoral Student, University of St. Andrews (UK), Department of philosophy.

**Academic year 2007/2008**

MA, Philosophy, University of Genoa. Specialization: Moral philosophy. Vote: 110/110 cum laude.

**Academic year 2005/2006**

BA, Classics, University of Genoa. Specializations: Greek History and Ancient Philosophy. Vote: 110/110 cum laude.

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

**Areas of specialization**

Virtue theory; Aristotle; Thomas Aquinas; Neo-Aristotelianism; Philosophy of Emotions.

**Areas of competence**

Metaethics; Ancient Ethics; Greek History; Greek Literature; Philosophy of Education.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**BOOKS AS AUTHOR**

*Le sfide dell'etica* (with M. De Caro & S.F. Magni), Mondadori Education, Milano 2021.

*Esempi morali. Tra ammirazione ed etica delle virtù*, il Mulino, Bologna 2020.

(with A. Campodonico and M. Croce) *Etica delle virtù. Un'introduzione*, Carocci, Roma 2017.

*The fabric of being. Bene, realtà e immaginazione in Iris Murdoch e nell'etica contemporanea*. ETS, Pisa 2016. ISBN 978-884674479-1

*Razionalità pratica e attenzione alla realtà. Prospettive contemporanee*, Orthotes, Napoli 2012. ISBN: 978-88-97806-13-4

*Le ragioni del contingente. La saggezza pratica tra Aristotele e Tommaso d'Aquino*. Orthotes, Napoli 2012. ISBN: 978-88-97806-11-0

(with A. Campodonico) *La pretesa del bene. Teoria dell'azione ed etica in Tommaso d'Aquino*. Orthotes, Napoli 2012. ISBN: 978-88-97806-03-5.

### **EDITED BOOKS AND SPECIAL ISSUES**

(with M. De Caro) *Practical Wisdom: Philosophical and Psychological Perspectives*, Routledge, New York 2021.

(with N. Snow) *Virtues, Democracy, and Online Media: Ethical and Epistemic Issues*, Routledge, New York 2021.

(with A. Campodonico and M. Croce) 'Moral Exemplarism and Character Education'. Special issue of the *Journal of Moral Education* (48(3): 2019.

(with A. Campodonico) 'Virtue Ethics'. Special issue of *Teoria* Vol.2 (2018).

(with M. Croce) 'Connecting Virtues'. Special issue of *Metaphilosophy* Vol. 49 (2018), No. 3.

(with M. Croce) 'Esemplari morali ed esemplarismo'. Special Issue of *Etica & Politica – Ethics & Politics* Vol. XX (2018), No. 1. ISSN 1825-5167.

*Emozioni e virtù. Percorsi e prospettive di un tema classico*, a cura di S. Langella e M.S. Vaccarezza, Orthotes, Napoli 2014.

(with R. Fanciullacci) *Iris Murdoch: la realtà della vita morale*, Special issue of *Etica & Politica – Ethics & Politics*, vol. XXVI (2014), n. 1.

(with A. Campodonico) *Gli altri in noi. Filosofia dell'interculturalità*. Rubbettino, Soveria Mannelli 2009.

### **TRANSLATIONS**

Tommaso d'Aquino, *Le virtù*, edited and translated into Italian by M.S. Vaccarezza, Bompiani, Milano 2014.  
C.B. Miller, *Questione di carattere. Quanto siamo realmente buoni?*, translated into Italian by M.S. Vaccarezza, Mimesis, Milano 2020.

### **PAPERS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS**

*The exemplary and the right. Contemporary virtue ethics, action guidance, and action assessment*, in «*Rivista di storia della filosofia*» (forthcoming)

*Legge, natura e virtù: l'etica del tomismo analitico nella sintesi di A. MacIntyre*, in «*Nuovo Giornale di Filosofia della Religione*», 2021.

- (with M. Croce) *Civility in the Post-truth Age: An Aristotelian Account*, in *Humana.Mente*, 14(39), 2021, pp. 127-150.
- ‘Paths to Flourishing: Ancient Models of the Exemplary Life’. *Ethics and Education* 15 (2):144-157 (2020).
- (with M. De Caro) ‘Morality and Interpretation: The Principle of Phronetic Charity’. *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 23 (2):295-307 (2020).
- ‘An Excess of Excellence: Aristotelian Supererogation and the Degrees of Virtue’. *International Journal of Philosophical Studies* 27:1 (2019), pp. 1-11. DOI: 10.1080/09672559.2018.1548635.
- (with A. Niccoli) ‘The Dark Side of the Exceptional: On Moral Exemplars, Character Education, and Negative Emotions’. *Journal of Moral Education* 48:3 (2019), pp. 332-345. DOI: 10.1080/03057240.2018.153408.
- ‘Admiration, moral knowledge and transformative experiences’. *HumanaMente* 12:35 (2019), Special Issue on *Emotions: From Cases to Theories* (M. Galletti & A. Niccoli eds.), pp. 150-166.
- ‘Virtue ethics: an anti-moralistic defence’. *Philosophical Inquiries* 7:1 (2019), pp. 29-44.
- ‘Dilemmi e unità delle virtù: la phronesis come integratore morale ed esistenziale’. *Teoria* XXXVIII/2018/2 (Terza serie XIII/2), pp. 101-111.
- ‘Virtù esemplari: L’etica tommasiana tra neoplatonismo e aristotelismo’. *Etica e Politica – Ethics & Politics* Vol. XX, No. 1 (2018). ISSN 1825-5167.
- (with M. De Caro and A. Niccoli) ‘Phronesis as ethical expertise: Naturalism of second nature and the unity of virtue’. *Journal of Value Inquiry*. 52 (3):287-305 (2018).
- ‘An Eye on Particulars with the End in Sight: An Account of Aristotelian Phronēsis’. *Metaphilosophy* Vol. 49 (2018), No. 3.
- ‘A Guide to Moral Knowledge. The Epistemic Role of Moral Emotions’. *Studi di Estetica* 1/2017, 27-44. DOI: 10.7413/18258646003.
- Profilo di Philippa Foot*, in «APhEx – Portale Italiano di Filosofia Analitica» 15/2017.
- The Unity of the Virtues Reconsidered. Competing Accounts in Philosophy and Positive Psychology*, in «Review of Philosophy and Psychology», 8 (2017), 637-651. doi: 10.1007/s13164-017-0334-7.
- Beyond a Dichotomy. Aquinas’s Theory of Natural Law as a Form of Autonomous Theonomy*, in «Dialegethai» 19 (2017).
- Santi, eroi e l’unità delle virtù. Una proposta esemplarista di educazione morale* (with M. Croce), in «Iride» 3/2016, pp. 635-648, doi: 10.1414/85117.
- Educating through Exemplars. Alternative Paths to Virtue* (with M. Croce), in «Theory and Research in Education» March 2017. DOI: 10.1177/1477878517695903.
- Saving the Contingent. A dialogue between Iris Murdoch and Aquinas*, in «New Blackfriars» DOI:10.1111/nbfr.12175.
- Aristotelismo contemporaneo e particolarismo morale: un bilancio critico*, in «Rivista di Filosofia Neo-Scolastica» CVIII,1 (2016), pp. 225-236.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

(with M. De Caro & M. Marraffa) The priority of phronesis: How to defend virtue theory from three potentially fatal challenges, in M. De Caro & M.S. Vaccarezza (eds.), *Practical Wisdom: Philosophical and Psychological Perspectives*, Routledge, New York 2021.

‘Virtue’, in M. Hopwood & S. Panizza (eds.), *Murdochian Mind*, forthcoming.

(with M. De Caro & A. Niccoli) ‘Emotional skillfulness and virtue acquisition’, in *The Oxford Handbook of Emotional Development* edited by Daniel Dukes, Andrea C. Samson, and Eric A. Walle, 2021.

*Aristotelismo e virtù: storia e teoria di una ripresa*, in M. Ostinelli (ed.), xxx, Carocci, Roma 2021.

‘Le radici delle virtù: un inquadramento’, in D. Piscitelli e G. Trevisi (eds.), *Relazioni virtuose nel lavoro professionale. Una prospettiva socio-educativa*, Studium, Roma 2021, forthcoming.

‘L’organo della bellezza morale. Tra ammirazione e vie emozionali negative’. In F. Miano e S. Achella (eds.), *Etica e bellezza*. Orthotes, Napoli-Salerno 2019, pp. 273-282.

‘Prudenza, integrità e vita compiuta’. In *Intelligenza d’amore: una nuova epistemologia morale oltre la dialettica tra norma e caso*, Cantagalli, Siena 2018, pp. 189-206.

*Macchine morali: responsabilità e saggezza pratica degli agenti artificiali*, in F. Miano (ed.), *Etica e responsabilità*, Orthotes, Napoli 2018, pp. 293-302.

*Educazione alla felicità. La paideia aristotelica ieri e oggi*, in E. Vimercati – P. Manganaro (eds.), *La storia della filosofia come paideia*, ETS, Pisa 2017, pp. 67-80.

*Stereotipi, emozioni e ingiustizia. L’immaginazione morale come fattore di coesione sociale*, in L. Mauro (ed.), *Social Cohesion and Human Rights. Reflections on Contemporary Society*, FrancoAngeli, Milano 2017, pp. 117-127.

*Il “tomismo analitico” di Philippa Foot*, in P. Bettineschi and R. Fanciullacci (eds.), *Tommaso d’Aquino e i filosofi analitici*, Orthotes, Napoli-Salerno 2015, pp. 185-192. ISBN: 978-88-97806-72-1.

*L’amore da emozione a virtù in Iris Murdoch e Simone Weil*, in S. Langella and M.S. Vaccarezza (eds.), *Emozioni e virtù. Percorsi e prospettive di un tema classico*. Orthotes, Napoli 2014, pp. 133-144. ISBN: 978-88-97806-44-8

*Allargare la ragione pubblica. Riflessioni su religione e bene comune*, in F. Botturi and A. Campodonico (eds.), *Bene comune. Fondamenti e pratiche*, Vita e Pensiero, Milano 2014, ISBN: 978883431999-87.

*Oltre l’azione. Iris Murdoch e la sovranità del Bene*, in *Schegge di filosofia moderna II*. deComporre Edizioni, Gaeta 2013, pp. 171-192. ISBN/ISSN: 9788898671052

## SELECTED TALKS AND LECTURES

*Virtues and the Flourishing Life. Jubilee Center Annual Conference*. Oriel College, Oxford, 3-5.02.2020. Talk Title: *Paths to flourishing: Ancient models of the exemplary life* (with A. Campodonico).

*Civic Virtues workshop*. University of Nottingham (UK), 6-7.11.2019. Talk: *Cultivating Civic-Epistemic Virtues to Counteract the Spread of Fake News* (with Michel Croce).

*Ethique et Philosophie*. Colloque organisé par l’institut ESPHIN de l’Université de Namur (BE), 16.10.19. Talk: *Aristotle, Aquinas and Virtue Ethics* (invited).

*Society for Philosophy and Psychology 2019 Annual Meeting*. San Diego, CA (USA), 10-13.07.2019. Accepted talk title: *A threat to traits: ethical expertise and the situationist challenge* (with M. De Caro).

*Settimana dottorale in Filosofia - UniTrieste e UniUdine*. Trieste, 28.06.2019. Lecture: *Eccessi di morale. Moralismo e discorso pubblico* (invited).

*10th Braga Meeting on Ethics and Political Philosophy*. University of Minho (Braga), 13-15.06.2019. Accepted talk title: *Exceeding the boundaries of morality. Varieties of moralism and their correlative virtues* (with F. Zuolo).

*EPSSE Conference, Pisa*, June, 10-11, 2019. Talk title: *Emotional Skillfulness and Virtue Acquisition* (with A. Niccoli).

*Seminario di etica*. Padova, 4.06.2019. Talk: *Teoria morale esemplarista. Una lettura critica* (invited).

*Seminario permanente di teoria politica*. Pavia, 9.05.2019. Talk: *Eccessi di morale* (invited, with F. Zuolo).

*Good Judgment, Critical Thinking and Other Epistemic Virtues in Academic Education*. Amsterdam, April 3-5, 2019 (invited speaker). Talk title: *Educators as exemplars of intellectual generosity*.

*Virtues: Local or Universal? 7<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues*. Oriel College, Oxford, January 3-5, 2019. Talk title: *A threat to traits: ethical expertise and the situationist challenge* (with M. De Caro).

*Irish Philosophical Society Annual Conference*. Dublin, November 8-10, 2018. Talk title: *Exceeding the boundaries of morality. Varieties of moralism and their correlative virtues* (with F. Zuolo).

*3rd Aretai Center on Virtues Conference, Virtue Ethics and Psychology. Towards a New Science of Virtues?*. Rome, October 18-20, 2018 (invited speaker with Mario De Caro). Talk title: *Reasons, Emotions, and the Virtuous Mind*.

*EPSSE Conference*. Tallinn, June 13-15, 2018. Talk title: *The dark side of the exceptional. On moral exemplars, character education, and negative emotions* (with A. Niccoli).

*Virtue & Moral Education*. University of Gdańsk, Poland, 17-18 May 2018. Talk title: *The dark side of the exceptional. On moral exemplars, character education, and negative emotions* (with A. Niccoli).

*International conference on Natural Normativity and the Normativity of Human Action*. University of Bamberg, Germany, 8-10 March 2018 (invited speaker with A. Niccoli). Talk title: *In defence of non-reductionist naturalism. From phronesis to ethical expertise*.

*Central American Philosophical Association Meeting*, Palmer House, Chicago, 21-24.02.2018 (invited speaker). Talk title: *Ordinarily admirable. Aristotle on the nameless honour-related virtue*.

*Thumos seminar series*, University of Geneva, 23.11.2017 (invited speaker). Talk title: *An excess of excellence: on virtue ethics and supererogation*.

*Ninth European Congress of Analytic Philosophy (ECAP9)*, Munich, 21-26/08/2017. Talk title: *Four Kinds of Moralism (and a Virtue-Ethical Response)*.

*21st-Century Theories of Literature: Ethics, Tropes, Attunement*, University of Warwick, 6-8/4/2017. Talk title: *"A Huge Hall of Reflection": Iris Murdoch on Literature as a Guide to Morals*.

*Character, Wisdom and Virtue*. Oriel College, Oxford, 5-7.01.2017. Talk title: *An eye on particulars with the end in sight. An account of Aristotelian phronesis*.

*XII Conference of the Italian Society for Analytic Philosophy (SIFA)*, Pistoia, 5-7.09.2016. Talk title: *"To see another as human": emotional correctives and imaginative engagement as a way to defeat stereotype-based emotional reactions*.

*Moralism: The Boundaries of Moral Thinking*, University of Essex, 20-21.06.2016. Talk title: *A Threefold Account of Moralism (and a Virtue-Based Response)*.

Filosofia y Mística, Universidad de Salamanca, 21-23.10.2015. Talk title: *Self-transcendence and Practical Mysticism*.

*Ethics of nature – Nature of Ethics*, University of Manchester, 16.05.2015. Talk title: *Nature in Ethics: Philippa Foot and Iris Murdoch*.

*Love's Passion: Philosophical Perspectives on Love*, University of Hertfordshire, UK, 15-16.09.2014. Talk title: *Emotion or virtue? The role of love in Iris Murdoch and Simone Weil*

*The virtues in Aristotle and Aquinas*. Invited speaker at the Lateran Pontifical University doctoral seminar series, 18.04.2014.

*Practical wisdom in Aquinas*. Invited speaker at the annual meeting of the SITA (International Society for Thomas Aquinas's studies), Rome, 12.03.2014

First International Conference on Iris Murdoch – Roma Tre University, Rome, 20-22.02.2014. Talk title: *Saving the Contingent. A Dialogue Between Iris Murdoch and Thomas Aquinas*. Iris Murdoch and Virtue Ethics: Philosophy and the Novel.

*The Eighth Annual Conference of the International Society for Neoplatonic Studies*. Miraflores de la Sierra, Madrid, 17-20.06.2010. Paper: *Aristotle on civic friendship*.

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2014- 2018. Post-Doctoral Fellowship funded by the Italian Ministry of Education, co-funded by the Italian Philosophical Association: 77.468€
- November 2017. Research leave funded by the University of Genoa. Leave spent at the Thumos Group, CISA Center for Affective Sciences, Université de Genève (CH): 2.500€
- 2014. Winner of the 18<sup>th</sup> Pontifical Academies award: 10.000€
- 2014. "Professor Paolo Michele Erede" Award: 1000€

## TEACHING

University of Genoa

Sept. 2018 – to date: Assistant Professor of Moral Philosophy (undergraduate, 9 CFU) and Contemporary Moral Philosophy (graduate, 9 CFU).

2014-2015: Teaching Assistant of *Introduction to Moral Philosophy* and *Philosophical Anthropology* (Prof. Angelo Campodonico).

Lateran Pontifical University, Rome

Sept. 2015 – June 2018: Under-contract Professor of Philosophical Anthropology (3 CFU, code 50666) and Seminar Module on Virtues in Aristotle and Aquinas (3 CFU, code 55041).

Sept. 2014- Sept. 2015: Under-contract Professor of Philosophical Anthropology (3 CFU, code 50666).

## AFFILIATIONS

- Editorial board of [Etica e Politica – Ethics & Politics](#)

- Italian Society of Moral Philosophy (SIFM)
- Italian Society of Analytical Philosophy (SIFA)
- International Society for Neoplatonic Studies (ISNS)
- American Philosophical Association (APA)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
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- Delegate for the Rector for students' affairs, University of Genova (2021-2023)
- Secretary of [Aretai – Center on Virtues](#)
- Treasurer and member of the Steering Committee, Italian Society of Moral Philosophy
- Ad hoc reviewer for: *Emotion Review, Etica & Politica – Ethics & Politics, Journal of Moral Education, Lessico di Etica e Politica, Philosophical Inquiries, Res Philosophica, Studium, Teoria.*
- Co-organizer of the conference “Exemplars and Exemplarism. Theory, Sources and Practices”. 5-6 Oct. 2017, University of Genoa, Genoa (Italy).
- Co-organizer of the conference “Connecting Virtues. Theoretical and Educational Insights”. 28-30 Sept. 2016. *Aretai. Center on Virtues*, University of Genoa, Genoa (Italy).
- Co-organizer of the conference “Rights and Social Cohesion” 5-6 Oct. 2015. University of Genoa, Genoa (Italy).
- Co-organizer of FILPRA seminar series (2015) – Department of Philosophy, University of Genoa, Genoa (Italy).