

Sylvester George Tan, S.J.

Visiting Assistant Professor, English / Languages and Cultures
Loyola University New Orleans

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A. Personal Data

Date of birth: 17 June 1978

Citizenship: USA, France

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B. Educational History

2010-2011	M.A. Medieval Studies, University of Toronto Thesis topic: Perceval's Sin: Theological Controversy in Chrétien's <i>Conte del Graal</i> ?
2008-2010	Non-degree: French Literature, University of Toronto Work completed is B.A. equivalent Cumulative GPA: 3.97/4.0
2003-2005	Ph.B. Philosophy, Pontifical Gregorian University <i>Magna cum laude</i>
2001-2003	Non-degree Programme in Christian Letters Accademia Balthasar, Rome
2000-2001	Post-Baccalaureate Watson Fellowship Project title: <i>The Changing Face of Catholicism</i>
1997-2000	B.A. English (Environmental Studies Concentration) The University of the South (Sewanee) <i>Cum laude</i> ; Passed comprehensive exams with distinction

C. Professional History

2011 —	Visiting Assistant Professor, English / Languages and Cultures, Loyola University, New Orleans
2009	Research Assistant, French Department, University of Toronto
2005-2006	Administrator and Assistant to the Rector, Casa Balthasar, Rome
2004-2005	Freelance academic translator, Italian-English
1997-2000	Academic Writing Tutor, University of the South

D. Fellowships and Awards

2000-2001	Thomas J. Watson Foundation Fellow
1999	National Young American Award (Learning for Life/BSA)
1998-1999	Associated Colleges of the South Student Environmental Fellow
1998	USOC Youth Representative, Nagano Winter Olympics

E. Professional Interests

My interests lie in the relationship between theology, spirituality, history, and art, especially in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. This interest manifests itself in the following areas:

- Chrétien de Troyes' elaboration of a robust moral theology through his Arthurian romances, especially *Erec et Enide* and *Li Contes del Graal*.
- The corporeal "fleshiness" transmitted in accounts and descriptions of mystical experiences by female saints, especially in the Middle Ages.
- The supple precision and sensibility to concrete context and praxis found in Ignatius of Loyola's written works, especially his letters and instructions.
- The embodied social consciousness of early 20th century French Catholic writers, especially Bernanos, Claudel, and Péguy.

F. Languages

Mother tongue: English

Other languages:

- French (read, write, speak; excellent comprehension, fair active command)
- Italian (read, write, speak; excellent comprehension, fair active command)
- Haitian Creole (read, write, speak; elementary passive and active command)
- Spanish (fair reading knowledge)
- Old French (fair reading knowledge)
- Medieval Latin (fair reading knowledge)

G. Courses taught

- Medieval French Culture
- Arthurian Legend