



Global Faculty Initiative

**The Faculty Initiative
seeks to promote the integration
of Christian faith and academic disciplines
by bringing theologians into conversation with scholars
across the spectrum of faculties
in research universities
worldwide.**

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Preview Response

HOW DOES THE SOCIAL CONTRACT SHAPE HOW WE THINK ABOUT FLOURISHING?

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On flourishing in relation to topics I work on:

1. How does the social contract, as metaphor and narrative, help to make visible and clarify the agential and circumstantial prerequisites of flourishing? How can it obscure those same prerequisites? (Christopher Watkin, *French Philosophy Today: New Figures of the Human in Badiou, Meillassoux, Malabou, Serres and Latour*, Edinburgh UP, 2016).
2. How does the social contract idea indoctrinate a set of assumptions about what flourishing must be, such that it does not merely passively describe societies but catechises them into certain dispositions toward the good? (Christopher Watkin, *Michel Serres: Figures of Thought*, Edinburgh UP, 2020).
3. How does the contract metaphor shape our sense of ourselves and the challenges that face us as a society (Christopher Watkin, *French Philosophy Today: New Figures of the Human in Badiou, Meillassoux, Malabou, Serres and Latour*, Edinburgh UP, 2016).

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