

TONY DECESARE, PHD

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2019- DePaul University, Chicago, IL
Instructional Assistant Professor, Dept. of Leadership, Language & Curriculum
- 2015-2019 St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Educational Studies

EDUCATION

- 2015 Ph.D., **Indiana University**, Philosophy of Education (minor in Political Science)
- 2014 M.S.Ed., **Indiana University**, History and Philosophy of Education
- 2005 M.A., **Fairfield University**, Curriculum and Instruction
- 2001 B.A., **Fairfield University**, English (minors in Philosophy and Art History)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Moral and Political Philosophy	Democratic and Civic Education
Theories of Justice	Children's Rights and Agency
Democratic Theory	Education Policy and Politics

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2021 **Nominated for "Excellence in Teaching" Award**, DePaul University
- 2019 **Faculty Member of the Year**, Saint Louis University, Honors Program
- 2018 **Nominated for "Outstanding Scholarly Work" Award**, Saint Louis University
- 2017 **Outstanding Contributions to Saint Louis University**, St. Louis University, Cura Program
- 2016 **Professor who Inspires Excellence in the Classroom**, St. Louis University, Department of Athletics
- 2012 **Best Formal Paper on Precollege Ethics**, Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE) and The Squire Family Foundation

- 2012 **Outstanding Associate Instructor Award**, Indiana University, School of Education
- 2011 **Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award Finalist**, Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society (OVPES)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- DeCesare, Tony (forthcoming). “The Future is Now: Rethinking the Role for Children in Democracy.” *Philosophy of Education*.
- DeCesare, Tony (2022). “Catholic Social Thought and the Capability Approach: Toward a more Democratic form of Global Democracy Promotion.” *Journal of Catholic Social Thought*, 19(2), p. 1-25.
- DeCesare, Tony (2020). “Centered Democratic Education: Public Schools as Civic Centers.” *Philosophical Studies in Education*, 51, p. 33-43.
- DeCesare, Tony (2018). “Working Toward Transpositional Objectivity: The Promotion of Democratic Capability for an Age of Post-Truth Politics.” *The Good Society: A Journal for Civic Studies*, 26(2-3), p. 218-233.
- DeCesare, Tony (2017). “Capability and the Obligation of Effective Power: The Global Promotion of Democratic Education for All.” In Ann Chinnery (Ed.), *Philosophy of Education*, p. 225-239. Urbana, IL: Philosophy of Education Society.
- DeCesare, Tony (2017). “Re-thinking the Conceptual and Normative Implications of the ‘Capability to be Educated’: Children, Youth, and the Pursuit of Educational Equality.” *Philosophical Studies in Education*, 48, p. 1-11.
- DeCesare, Tony (2016). “Still Leaving Citizens Behind: Re-conceiving the Civic Empowerment Gap as a Democratic Capability Gap.” *Journal of Philosophy & History of Education*, 66(1), p. 13-26.
- DeCesare, Tony (2016). “A Capabilities Based Critique of Gutmann’s Democratic Interpretation of Equal Educational Opportunity.” *Philosophical Studies in Education*, 47, p. 129-139.
- DeCesare, Tony (2014). “Theorizing Democratic Education from a Senian Perspective.” *Studies in Philosophy and Education* 33(2), p. 149-170.
- DeCesare, Tony (2012). “On the Potential Contributions of High School Philosophy to Ethical and Democratic Education.” *Teaching Ethics* 13(1), p. 1-16.

DeCesare, Tony (2012). “The Lippmann-Dewey Debate Revisited: The Problem of Knowledge and the Role of Experts in Modern Democratic Theory.” *Philosophical Studies in Education* 43, p. 106-116.

DeCesare, Tony (2011). “Two Versions of the Capability Approach and Their Respective Implications for Democratic Education.” In Robert Kunzman (Ed.), *Philosophy of Education*, p. 226-234. Urbana, IL: Philosophy of Education Society.

Editor-Reviewed Articles

DeCesare, Tony (2021). “Philosophy of Education in Unprecedented Times: Seizing Opportunity in Calamity.” *Philosophical Studies in Education* 52, p. 1-8.

DeCesare, Tony (2016). “Rediscovering the Educating Forest through the Prefacing Trees: Drawing Lessons from Barber’s *Strong Democracy*.” In Natasha Levinson (Ed.), *Philosophy of Education*, p. 128-131. Urbana, IL: Philosophy of Education Society.

DeCesare, Tony (2016). “Children and the Realization of Justice.” *Talking Points*, 27(2), p. 28-29.

Book Reviews and Review Essays

DeCesare, Tony (2020). *Jefferson’s Revolutionary Theory and the Reconstruction of Educational Purpose* by Kerry T. Burch. *Journal of Educational Controversy*, 14(1), p. 1-4.

DeCesare, Tony and Lyndsay Cowles (2018). *American Public Education and the Responsibility of Its Citizens* by Sarah M. Stitzlein. *American Journal of Education*, 124(4), p. 516-520.

DeCesare, Tony. (2016). “What Kind of Teacher for Our Citizens? A Review of *What Kind of Citizen? Educating Our Children for the Common Good*.” *Democracy and Education*, 24(2), p. 1-3.

Other Publications

DeCesare, Tony and Lyndsay Cowles (2018, March 6). “Unlock the Schools.” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. http://www.stltoday.com/opinion/columnists/unlock-the-schools/article_9826f0dc-bb1f-5965-a477-cb0183d4e9fd.html

DeCesare, Tony and Lyndsay Cowles (2018, March 1). “Throw the Doors Open.” *Education Week*. <https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2018/03/07/after-parkland-where-do-we-go-from.html>

WORK IN PROGRESS

DeCesare, Tony (under contract). “The Capabilities Approach and Education.” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Education*.

DeCesare, Tony (under review). “The Adults are not alright: Theorizing Adult Democratic Education.”

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Selected Conference Presentations (Peer Reviewed)

DeCesare, Tony (March 2022). “The Future is Now: Rethinking the Role for Children in Democracy.” Accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the *Philosophy of Education Society*, San Jose, CA.

DeCesare, Tony (September 2021). “What about ‘Current’ Citizens? Challenging the Future- and School-Orientation of Democratic Education.” Annual meeting of the *Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society*, Brown County, IN.

DeCesare, Tony (September 2021). “On the Educative Potential of Jefferson’s Ward Republics.” Annual meeting of the *Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society*, Brown County, IN.

DeCesare, Tony and Katherine Booher (November 2019). “‘Maybe it’s time we let the kids lead’: Children as (Voting) Citizens.” Annual meeting of the *American Educational Studies Association*, Baltimore, MD.

DeCesare, Tony. (September 2019). “(Re)Centering Democratic Education: Public Schools as Civic Centers.” Annual meeting of the *Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society*, Brown County, IN.

DeCesare, Tony and Lyndsay Cowles (November 2018). “Schools as Civic Centers: A Partial Cure for What Ails Democracy.” Annual meeting of the *American Educational Studies Association*, Greenville, South Carolina.

DeCesare, Tony (September 2018). “Democracy (and Epistemic Justice) Now! In Defense of Children’s Political Participation.” Annual meeting of the *Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society*, Brown County, IN.

DeCesare, Tony (March 2018). “Functionally Public Schools as ‘Civic Centers.’” Annual meeting of the *Philosophy of Education Society*, Chicago, IL.

DeCesare, Tony and Lyndsay Cowles (October 2017). “In Order to Form a More Perfect Democracy: Re-Envisioning Democratic Education in an(other) Era of Bullshit.” Annual meeting of the *Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society*, University of St. Mary of the Lake Conference Center, Mundelein, IL.

DeCesare, Tony (May 2017). “The Praxis of Amartya Sen and the Promotion of Democratic Capability.” *Special Conference on Facts, Values, and Strategies in Citizen Politics*, Tufts University, Tisch College of Civic Life, Boston, MA.

DeCesare, Tony (March 2017). “Capability and the Obligation of Effective Power: The Global Promotion of Democratic Education for All.” Annual meeting of the *Philosophy of Education Society*, Seattle, WA.

DeCesare, Tony (September 2016). “Re-thinking the Conceptual and Normative Implications of the ‘Capability to be Educated’ for the Pursuit of Educational Equality.” Annual meeting of the *Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society*, Bergamo Conference Center, OH.

DeCesare, Tony (March 2016). “Rediscovering the Educating Forest through the Prefacing Trees: Drawing Lessons from Barber’s *Strong Democracy*.” Annual meeting of the *Philosophy of Education Society*, Toronto, Canada.

DeCesare, Tony (September 2015). “Democratic Education beyond Schooling: The Promotion of Democratic Capability.” Annual meeting of the *Society of Philosophy and History of Education*, St. Louis, MO.

DeCesare, Tony (September 2015). “Closing the Democratic Capability Gap: Sen and Democratic Education.” Annual meeting of the *Human Development and Capabilities Association*, Washington, DC.

DeCesare, Tony (September 2015). “Equality of What in Democratic Education? A Capabilities Alternative to Gutmann’s Democratic Interpretation of Educational Equality.” Annual meeting of the *Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society*, Bergamo Conference Center, OH.

DeCesare, Tony (September 2014). “A New Language for a *Present-Oriented Democratic Education*.” Annual meeting of the *Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society*, Bergamo Conference Center, OH.

DeCesare, Tony (September 2013). “Toward a Senian Model of (Democratic) Democracy Promotion.” Annual meeting of the *Human Development and Capabilities Association*, Managua, Nicaragua.

DeCesare, Tony and Cary Buzzelli (March 2013). “The Capabilities Approach: Implications for Democratic Education and early Childhood Education.” Annual *Curriculum and Instruction Research and Creative Activity Symposium*, Bloomington, IN.

DeCesare, Tony (March 2013). “Conceptualizing Capabilities: Amartya Sen and Deliberative Democratic Education.” Annual meeting of the *Philosophy of Education Society*, Portland, OR.

DeCesare, Tony (March 2012). “On the Potential Contributions of High School Philosophy to Ethical and Democratic Education.” Annual meeting of the *Association for Practical and Professional Ethics*, Cincinnati, OH.

Awarded “Best Formal Paper on Precollege Ethics” by the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics and The Squire Family Foundation

DeCesare, Tony (September 2011). “John Dewey on the Usefulness of High School Philosophy.” Annual *Conference on Curriculum Theory and Practice*, Bergamo Conference Center, OH.

DeCesare, Tony (September 2011). “The Lippmann-Dewey Debate Revisited: On the Role of Experts in Democracy and the Possibility of Social Knowledge.” Annual meeting of the *Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society*, Bergamo Conference Center, OH.
Finalist for the “Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award”

DeCesare, Tony (March 2011). “To List or Not to List: Two Versions of the Capability Approach and Their Respective Implications for Democratic Education.” Annual meeting of the *Philosophy of Education Society*, St. Louis, MO.

DeCesare, Tony and Kristopher Holland (April 2010). “Plato’s *Theaetetus*: Pointing to an Epistemological Focus for Philosophy of Education.” Annual meeting of the *Philosophy of Education Society*, San Francisco, CA.

DeCesare, Tony (December 2009). “On the Ethics of Education as a Form of Aid between Nations.” Annual meeting of the *Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia*, Honolulu, HI.

DeCesare, Tony (November 2009). “Conceiving and Implementing Education as a Form International Assistance.” Annual meeting of the *Society for the Philosophical Study of Education*, Chicago, IL.

Workshop Presentations (Invited)

DeCesare, Tony (September 2017). “On the (Potential) Epistemic and Democratic Contributions of Children—Reflections from a Capabilities Approach Perspective.” *Workshop on the Catholic Social Tradition and the Capability Approach*, University of Notre Dame, Kellogg Institute and the Center for Social Concerns, South Bend, IN.

DeCesare, Tony, Amber Johnson and Elizabeth Embry (January 2017). “Handling Politically Sensitive Topics and Discussions in the Classroom.” *Thinking Critically, Thinking Creatively about Teaching*, St. Louis University, Reinert Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning (Winter Institute), Saint Louis, MO.

INVITED LECTURES, TALKS, AND INTERVIEWS

DeCesare, Tony (February 16, 2022). “The Capabilities Approach and Education.” *Indiana University, School of Education*, Bloomington, IN.

DeCesare, Tony (December 14, 2021). “Centered Democratic Education” [Interview]. *Faculti*. <https://faculti.net/centered-democratic-education/>

DeCesare, Tony (February 2017). “The Conception of the Human Person in the Capabilities Approach: From Entitlements to the Duties of Global Justice.” *University of Notre Dame, Kellogg Institute and the Center for Social Concerns*, South Bend, IN.

DeCesare, Tony (February 8, 2016). “Children’s Capabilities: Aspirations, Rights, and Special Needs.” *Indiana University, School of Education, Bloomington, IN.*

DeCesare, Tony (October 29, 2015). “Promoting Children’s Agency: A Capabilities Approach Perspective.” *Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.*

DeCesare, Tony (February 19, 2013). “The Capabilities Approach and K-12 Education.” *Indiana University, School of Education, Bloomington, IN.*

GRANTS

Summer Research Awards in Humanities (2019), Saint Louis University, Office of the Vice President for Research, \$3985.00. Not Funded.

Research Growth Fund (2018), Saint Louis University, Office of the Vice President for Research, \$16055.70. Not funded.

Active Learning Grant (2010), Campus Instructional Consulting, Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, Indiana University, \$1500. Funded.

Writing-Teaching Grant (2010), Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, Indiana University, \$1500. Funded.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

DePaul University

Graduate

Youth Development, Ideology, Culture, & Society (CS 764)
Curriculum for Human and Community Development (CS 751)
Curriculum Discourse and Perspectives over Time (CS 704)
Teachers as Leaders (CS 470)
Frameworks of Inquiry in Educational Research I (SCG 775)
Culture, Power, and Education (SCG 711)
Philosophy of Ethics in Education (SCG 701)
Ideology, Power, and Politics (SCG 608)
Philosophy of Education (SCG 411)

Undergraduate

The Politics of Education (LSE 353)
Seminar on Race, Power, and Resistance (LSP 200)

St. Louis University

Graduate

Studies in Philosophy of Education (EDF 6100)
Philosophical Perspectives on Equality of Educational Opportunity (EDF 6110)
History of American Education (EDF 6460)

Undergraduate

Foundations of Education (EDF 2010)

Professional Ethics (EDF 3480)

Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods (EDR 3891)

Just Schooling? (In)equity and Education in the United States (HR 1900—Honors Program)

Indiana University

Undergraduate

Introduction to Educational Thought (F205)

The Study of Education and the Practice of Teaching (H205)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University, School, Department Service

DePaul University

- Committee on Contingent Faculty, 2020-Present

Saint Louis University

- Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee, 2016-2019 (Co-Chair, 2016-2018)
- Honors Faculty Council, 2017-2019
- Faculty Mentor, Reinert Center Certificate in University Teaching Skills Program, 2017-2019
- Grant Proposal Reviewer, Investigative Learning Experience (ILEX) Grants, 2019, 2017
- Foundations of Education Program Review Committee, School of Education, 2016-2018
- Faculty Search Committee, Tenure-Track Assistant Professor in Education Policy and Equity, 2018
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, School of Education, 2015-2017
- Policies and Procedures Committee, School of Education, 2016-2017
- Faculty Research Symposium Series (Organizer), School of Education, 2016-2017
- Presidential Scholarship Interviewer, 2016
- Grant Proposal Reviewer, President's Research Fund (PRF) Grants, 2016

Professional Association Service

- *Philosophy of Education Society*, Conference Management Committee (2022-2024)
- *North American Capabilities Association*, Founding Member, and Inaugural United States Coordinator, 2018-Present
- *John Dewey Society*, Nominating Committee (Chair), 2021
- *Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society*,
 - Conference Program Chair, 2020
 - Program Committee, 2018-2021; 2016
 - Proposal Reviewer, 2018-2021; 2016
- *American Educational Studies Association*
 - Proposal Review Team Co-Leader (“Educational Policy and Politics” submissions), 2016

- Proposal Reviewer, 2016
- *Philosophy of Education Society*, Assistant to Program Chair, 2010-2011

Editorial Service

- *Philosophical Studies in Education*
 - Contributing Editor, 2021
 - Editorial Board, 2019-2020, 2018-2019, 2015-2016
- Ad hoc Manuscript Reviewer: Harvard University Press, *Critical Questions in Education*, *Democracy and Education*, *Peace & Change: A Journal of Peace Research*

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant, *Office of the Executive Associate Dean, School of Education*, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, August 2014-June 2015; August 2009-May 2010

Research Assistant, *Office of the Associate Dean for Teacher Education*, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, July 2012-June 2015

Associate Instructor, *Dept. of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies*, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, fall 2009-spring 2014

Assistant Workshop Planner, “Homeschooling: Exploring Current Issues and Contributing to the Public Conversation,” Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, fall 2011-spring 2012

Research Assistant and Student Teaching Supervisor, *Community of Teachers (CoT)*, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, fall 2011-spring 2012

English Teacher, grades 9-12, Xaverian Brothers High School, Westwood, MA, August 2005-July 2008.

English Teacher, grades 9-12, The Woodhall School, Bethlehem, CT, August 2001-July 2002.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA)

North American Capabilities Association (NACA)

Philosophy of Education Society (PES)

Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society (OVPES)

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

American Educational Studies Association (AESA)

The John Dewey Society (JDS)

Society of Philosophy and History of Education (SOPHE)

American Association of University Professors (AAUP)