

LEO SALVATORE

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EDUCATION

University of Chicago – Master of Arts, Social Sciences – Committee on Social Thought Class of 2025
Thesis: “Thinking with Oneself: Socrates’ Philosophical Conscience in the *Hippias Major*”

Ralston College – Master of Arts, Humanities Class of 2024
Thesis: “From Bard to Beckett: Poetic Truth as Participation in the World”

Soka University of America – Bachelor of Arts, Liberal Arts – Humanities Class of 2022
Senior Thesis: “Al-Ghazali and Collaborative Philosophical Inquiry: An Encounter”

LANGUAGES

Italian (Native) | **English** (Native) | **French** | **Spanish** | **Portuguese** | **Modern Greek** | **Ancient Greek** | **Latin**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Tour Operator May 2025 – present
Alithea Travel

- Designing and leading holistic educational trips in Italy and Greece with US-based groups of 20+ participants
- Delivering on-site lectures and seminars on wide-ranging topics from history, literature, and philosophy tailored to each trip
- Overseeing pre-departure and in-country logistics (e.g., accommodation; transportation; museum access; dietary needs)
- Serving as primary contact point for participants and partner institution throughout program planning and execution

Trips

Greece Term, Ralston College (Savannah, GA), Aug. - Sep. 2026 (57 days)

Hiking the Dolomites, Independent Group, June 2026 (12 days)

The Makers of Italy, American College of the Building Arts (Charleston, SC), May 2026 (14 days)

Greece Term (Ralston College, Savannah, GA), Aug. - Sep. 2025 (56 days)

Living the Classics in Italy, Academy of Christian Classical Studies (Oklahoma City, OK), May 2025 (12 days)

Rhetoric Trainer October 2024 – present
The Classical Society (remote)

- Preparing and leading weekly 1-hour sessions on the art of rhetoric with 4-6 regular clients to bolster speaking skills
- Synthesizing intricate texts and concepts from the history of rhetoric to offer valuable, timely lessons to elite entrepreneurs

Arts and Culture Contributor June 2024 – present
The Epoch Times (remote)

- Producing weekly essays and book reviews reaching 40,000+ monthly readers, consistently meeting editorial deadlines
- Distilling complex texts into clear, narrative-driven analyses, increasing reader engagement and article shares
- Collaborating with editors through multiple revision cycles to strengthen argumentation, clarity, and accessibility

Bilingual Humanities Tutor and Essay Reviewer January 2022 – January 2024
PAPER (remote)

- Reviewed 25-50 student essays daily, providing line edits and critical feedback to improve clarity and argumentative rigor
- Guided 50+ rotating K-12 students per day through Socratic dialogue to refine analytical thinking and interpretive skills in Humanities and Social Science subjects

Research Assistant (to Professor Robert Elliott Allinson, Ph.D.) June 2019 – June 2022
Soka University of America, Aliso Viejo, CA

- Wrote abstracts, chapter synopses, bibliographies, and indices to prepare 16 articles and monographs for publication
- Proofread and edited 900+ pages of draft papers for publication in *Dialogue & Universalism* no. 2 & 3 (2021) and no. 1 (2022)

French Tutor September 2018 – May 2022
Soka University of America, Aliso Viejo, CA

- Provided written and oral tutoring for 20+ students per semester through targeted instruction in reading comprehension, translation, and literary analysis
- Led weekly roundtable discussions (in French) to enhance students' learning and fluency

RESEARCH & WORK FELLOWSHIPS

National Humanities Leadership Council January 2022 – May 2022

- Contributed to discussions on Humanities education, accessibility, and digital scholarship with leading national scholars
- Completed writing project at crossroads of literature and philosophy to bridge public and academic worlds

Pacific Basin Research Center Junior Scholar January 2019 – May 2022

- Attended monthly workshops on politico-philosophical dynamics of Pacific Basin
- Presented senior thesis on Al-Ghazali and Philosophy for Children at CIES conference in Minneapolis, MN

Tilting Futures – Brazil Cohort August 2017 – April 2018

- Participated in 7-day leadership training at Stanford University to hone communication, fundraising, and leadership skills
- Taught English and global culture through music and games to 23 foster children in Florianopolis, Brazil

RESEARCH GRANTS

Luis & Linda Nieves Grant (\$27,000; shared among 12 scholars) 2020

- Led successful grant writing for 2-week team research project in São Paulo and Fortaleza, Brazil
- Investigated relationships between Imperial political philosophies, environment, and drought in the Brazilian Northeast

PUBLICATIONS

“Outcomes & Communication for Effective Reform.” <i>Future of Educational Research</i> 2(1): 6-15.	2024
“Roman Ruins.” <i>Voegelin View</i> .	2023
“In Search of a Creator: Infinity and Existence in the Kalam Cosmological Argument.” <i>Aporia</i> 32(1): 31-44.	2022
“Breathe.” <i>Venti: Air, Experience, and Aesthetics</i> .	2022

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Mens Sana in Corpore Sano: Contra Gnosticism via a Philosophy of Exercise” <i>Southern Humanities Conference</i>	2024
Invited talk. “On Honesty and Truthfulness: Nietzsche’s Free Spirits in the Service of Higher Aims.” <i>Undergraduate Philosophy Journal of Australasia</i>	2023
“The Paper Method in Practice: Harnessing Technology for an Emancipatory Education.” <i>Comparative and International Education Society</i>	2023
“Reimagining Education: Al-Ghazali and Philosophy for Children on the Future of Learning.” <i>Comparative and International Education Society</i>	2022
“Al-Ghazali and Philosophy for Children: Meaningful Parallels for a Meaningful Future.” <i>National Conference on Undergraduate Research</i>	2022
“On Virtue and the State: A Critical Evaluation of Adorno’s Aristotle Critique.” <i>SUNY Oneonta Undergraduate Philosophy Conference</i> . (Accepted but unable to attend.)	2022
“The 2020 Colonial Pipeline Spill: Accident or Moral Disaster?” <i>London School of Economics Undergraduate Political Review</i>	2022

SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS & AWARDS

Maroon Research Scholarship (University of Chicago)	2024-25
Full-tuition Scholarship (Ralston College)	2023-24
National Humanities Leadership Council	2022
Essay Contest Finalist. “The Shadows within Us.” <i>Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity</i> . (Faculty sponsor: Ian Read, PhD)	2022
Ikeda Scholarship (Soka University; full-tuition)	2019 – 2020
Excellence in Research Award (Soka University)	2019 – 2020
Brian McCloskey Memorial Scholarship (Soka University)	2019
Merit Scholarship (Soka University)	2019-2020-2021-2022
Pacific Basin Research Center Essay Contest Winner	2019