

Department of Philosophy
University of Colorado, Boulder
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Denver, CO 80223
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Education

Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, September 2000
B.A. University of Connecticut, 1993

Area of Specialization

History of Early Modern Philosophy

Areas of Competence

Metaphysics, Medieval Philosophy, History of Science (early modern), Philosophy of Religion, Metaphysics/Ontology of Aesthetics

Publications

“Descartes on the Objective Reality of Materially False Ideas”

Pacific Philosophical Quarterly 81 (2000), 385-408

“Descartes’ Creation Doctrine and Modality”

Australasian Journal of Philosophy 80 (2002), 24-41

“*Infimus Gradus Libertatis?* Descartes on Indifference and Divine Freedom”

Religious Studies 39 (2003), 391-406

“Divine Simplicity and the Eternal Truths in Descartes”

British Journal for the History of Philosophy 11 (2003), 553-579

“God’s Immutability and the Necessity of Descartes’ Eternal Truths”
Journal of the History of Philosophy 43 (2005), 1-19

“Locks, Schlocks, and Poisoned Peas: Boyle on Actual and Dispositive Qualities”
Oxford Studies in Early Modern Philosophy 3 (2006), 153-198

“Locke on Individuation and the Corpuscular Basis of Kinds”
Philosophy and Phenomenological Research 75 (2007), 499-534
Nominated for the APA Article Prize

“Descartes on Composites, Incomplete Substances, and Kinds of Unity”
Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie, (2008), 39-73

“The Resurrection of the Same Body and the Ontological Status of Organisms: What Locke Should Have (and Could Have) Told Stillingfleet”
Contemporary Perspectives on Early Modern Philosophy, David Owen, Paul Hoffman, and Gideon Yaffe (eds.), Broadview Press, (2008), 191-214

Papers under Contract

“Identity”
For *The Blackwell Companion to Locke’s Essay Concerning Human Understanding*,
M. Stuart (ed.) Blackwell Publishing

“Individuation and Persistence”
For *Routledge Companion to Seventeenth-Century Philosophy*, Routledge

“The Real Distinction between Mind and Body and Its Importance”
For *Cambridge Critical Guide to Descartes’ Meditations*, K. Detlefsen (ed.)
Cambridge University Press (contract pending)

Papers Currently under Review

“Cartesian Corporeal Substances, Individual Bodies, and Corruptibility”
“Understanding the Real Distinction between Cartesian Corporeal Substances”

Papers in Progress

“Hobbes’ Mereological Anti-Realism”
“The Importance of Being Simple”

Book (invited editor; under contract)

The Routledge Companion to Seventeenth-Century Philosophy, Routledge, 2009 (anticipated).
Roughly 1000 pages of original, commissioned contributions.

Reviews

Christopher Conn, *Locke on Essence and Identity*
British Journal for the History of Philosophy 13 (2005), 397-402.

Christopher Gaukroger (ed.), *The Blackwell Companion to Descartes' Meditations*
Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews (June 2006)

David Clemenson, *Descartes' Theory of Ideas*
Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews (March 2008)

Talks

Recent and upcoming invited talks:

Margaret Wilson Conference, Cornell University (2008)
University of Chicago (2008)
The Ohio State University (2008)
Simon Fraser University (2008)
Invited Symposium on 'Descartes' Metaphysics of Substance', Pacific APA (2007)
University of Michigan (2007)
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (2006)
University of Virginia (2006)
Davidson College (2006)
Margaret Wilson Conference, UC-San Diego (2006)
University of Arizona (2006)
UC-Davis (2006)

Earlier Talks

"Incorruptibility and Corporeal Substances in Descartes"
Third Biennial Margaret Wilson Conference, UC-San Diego, June 2006
Lewis and Clark College, April 2006

- University of Virginia, March 2006
- “Locks, Schlocks, and Poisoned Peas: Boyle on Actual and Dispositive Qualities”
 New England Colloquium in Early Modern Philosophy, Harvard University, June 2005
 CU History and Philosophy of Science Group, December 2005
- “Comments on Schellenberg’s ‘The Problem of Hiddenness and the Problem of Evil’”
 CU Theology Forum Conference on Divine Hiddenness, October 2004
- “Comments on Andy Pessin’s ‘Descartes’s Omnipotence Argument’”
 American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Washington DC, December 2003
- “The Resurrection of the Same Body: What Locke Should Have (and Could Have) Told Stillingfleet”
 Pacific Northwest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, University of Washington, October 2004
 University of Massachusetts Biennial Philosophy Conference, October 2003
- “Locke on Individuation and the Corpuscular Basis of Kinds”
 University of Louisville, January 2005
 British Society for the History of Philosophy Conference commemorating the Tercentenary of Locke’s Death, St. Catherine’s College, Oxford, April 2004
 University of Colorado at Boulder, January 2004
 Indiana University, January 2004
 University of Connecticut, October 2003
- “Comments on Schmitter or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Rejection of the Modal Interpretation of Descartes’ Creation Doctrine”
 American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, San Francisco, March 2003
- “Masses, Organisms, and Individuation: Locke and the Intractable ‘Kinds Problem’”
 University of Utah, January 2003
 South Central Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Texas Tech University, October 2002
 Auburn University, September 2002
- “Composites and Incomplete Substances in Descartes”
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, February 2006
 Davidson College, February 2006
 University of Kentucky, January 2005
 University of Massachusetts Biennial Philosophy Conference, October 2001
 University of Florida, September 2001
- "Divine Simplicity, Kinds of Distinctions, and the Eternal Truths in Descartes"
 Central Canada Seminar for the Study of Early Modern Philosophy, University of Toronto, May 2001
- "*Infimus gradus libertatis?*: Descartes on Indifference and Divine Freedom"
 Southeastern Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Wake Forest University, November 2000
- "Future Contingents in Peter de Rivo: Comments on Evans"
 Central States Philosophical Association Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska, October 2000
- "Could God Make Two Plus Two Equal Five?"
 Texas Tech University, October 2000
- "Immutability and Necessity in Descartes"
 American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Chicago, April 2000

- "Remembering Emotions in Augustine's *Confessions*"
Augustine Lectio, University of Massachusetts, April 2000
- "The Creation of the Eternal Truths: A Defense of Descartes"
American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Boston, December 1999
- "*Potentia dei absoluta et ordinata*: The Medieval Distinction and an Alleged 17th-Century Use"
SSIPS Conference, SUNY Binghamton, October 1999
Cornell Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy, Cornell University, June 2000
- "St. Augustine's Solution to the Paradox of Inquiry"
Augustine Lectio, Cornell University, April 1999
- "Descartes' Creation Doctrine and the Necessity of the Eternal Truths"
University of Massachusetts, April 1999
Mount Holyoke College, April 1999
South Central Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Texas A&M University, November 1999.
- "Locke on Pain and Secondary Qualities"
Midsouth Conference, University of Memphis, March 1999
- "Locke's Spoilage Proviso: Comments on Kolers' 'Surpassing Spoilage'"
Midsouth Conference, University of Memphis, March 1999
- "Misrepresentation, Indeterminacy, and Proper Functions"
University of Massachusetts, April 1996

Employment

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Colorado at Boulder, 2004 – present.
Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Spring 2008
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Florida, 2001 – 2004.

Awards

Nominated for APA Article Prize, 2008
Honored at Anderson Scholars Convocation, University of Florida, October 2003
Nominee, Faculty Teaching Award, University of Florida CLAS, Fall 2002
Recipient, University of Florida Scholarship Enhancement Fund, 2002, 2004
Outstanding Professor, selected by Pi Beta Phi, Texas Tech University, Spring 2001
Member, The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, elected Spring 2000
Teaching Excellence Award, University of Massachusetts, 1999
APA Graduate Student Travel Stipend, Eastern Division 1999
University of Massachusetts Graduate Student Travel Grant, Fall 1999
University of Massachusetts Distinguished Teacher Award, finalist, 1996

Teaching

Graduate Seminars:

Individuation and Identity in Early Modern Philosophy
Early Modern Metaphysics: Substance, Identity, and Modality
Descartes' Metaphysics
Descartes, Leibniz, Malebranche
Locke, Berkeley, Hume

Graduate/Undergraduate:

Early Modern Metaphysics: Identity and Persistence
Locke
Descartes, Spinoza, Malebranche, Leibniz
Early Modern Theories of Matter

Undergraduate:

Seminar: The Metaphysics of Fiction
History of Modern Philosophy
Leibniz
Locke
Philosophy of Religion
The Rationalists
Introduction to Philosophy
Honors Introduction to Philosophy
Ethical Issues in Complex Organizations
Existentialism
Political Philosophy

Thesis Supervision

Chair, MA Thesis, Derek Kern
Member, Ph.D. Dissertation Committee, Mary Krizan
Member, Ph.D. Dissertation Committee, Jonathan Peeters
Member, Ph.D. Dissertation Committee, Bryan Hall
Member, MA Thesis, Brandon Bogardus
Member, MA Thesis, David Ivy
Member, MA Thesis Committee, Brian Hood (University of Florida)
Chair, MA Thesis Committee, Eugene Zaldivar (University of Florida, replaced)
Outside Reader, MA Thesis on Spinoza, Department of Philosophy, University of Wyoming,
Spring 2007
Outside Reader, Ph.D. dissertation, English Department, CU-Boulder.

Miscellaneous

Lecture for undergraduate 'Philosophy and Film Series', CU-Boulder, Spring Colorado

Summer Undergraduate Philosophy Seminar, July 2005, July 2008

External Examiner for Early Modern Philosophy and for the Analytic Tradition, Honors Program in Philosophy, Swarthmore College, May 2003

Service

Central Division APA Program Committee, 2007 - 2009

Referee for *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, Oxford University Press, Routledge, Broadview, University of Chicago Press

Emerson-Lowe Fellowship Committee, 2005, 2006

Library Representative for the Philosophy Department, University of Colorado, 2004-present

Chair, Colloquium Committee, Department of Philosophy, University of Colorado, 2005 – 2007

Co-Chair, Colloquium Committee, Department of Philosophy, University of Colorado, 2004 - 2007

Search Committee in History of Philosophy, CU, 2004 - 2007

Chair of two Third Semester Paper Committees

Several Fifth Semester Paper Committees, 2004 - present

Graduate Curriculum Committee, 2004 - 2007

Graduate Admissions Committee, 2005-06

Salary Committee, 2005-2007

Executive Committee, 2007 -

Chair, Session on metaphysics, Florida Philosophical Association Conference, 2002

Chair, Session on Descartes, Central Division APA, Chicago, 2002

Chair, Session on Descartes, Pacific Division APA, Seattle, 2002

Chair, Sessions on Early Modern Philosophy, FPA Conference, Stetson University, 2001

Undergraduate Committee, Department of Philosophy, University of Florida, 2002 – 2004

Faculty Advisor to the University of Florida Undergraduate Philosophical Society, 2002-2004

Miscellaneous

Co-organizer, 2006 Morris Colloquium on Human Beings and Human Nature in the History of Philosophy, CU-Boulder, March 2006

Organizer, Spring 2004 Southeast Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy

Organizer, Conference on "Early Modern Women Philosophers," 2003, University of Florida

Professional Organizations

American Philosophical Association

Leibniz Society of North America