

PAUL PRESCOTT

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy
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Syracuse University
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EDUCATION

PhD Philosophy, Syracuse University, 2012
MA Philosophy, Fordham University, 2002
BA Philosophy, Comparative Religion, Pacific Lutheran University, 1999

RESEARCH AND TEACHING

Areas of Specialization: Applied and Professional Ethics, Moral Psychology
Areas of Competence: Classical Chinese Philosophy, Metaethics, Normative Ethics,
Philosophy and Psychiatry, Philosophy and Religion
Other Teaching Interests: Epistemology, Formal and Informal Logic, Greek and Roman
Philosophy, Human Nature, Philosophy of Science

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2012— Part-Time Assistant Professor, Philosophy, Syracuse University
Lecturer, Bioethics and Humanities, SUNY Upstate Medical University

PUBLICATIONS

“Kantian Contributions to the Ethics of Communication” (w Shannon Bowen). *Ethical Space: The International Journal of Communication Ethics*, Vol.12/2 (2015), pp. 38-44.
“Unthinkable ≠ Unknowable: On Charlotte Delbo’s ‘Il Faut Donner à Voir.’” *The Journal of Value Inquiry*, Vol. 48/3 (2014), pp. 457-468.
“What Pessimism Is.” *Journal of Philosophical Research*, Vol. 37 (2012), pp. 337-356.

DISSERTATION

Committee: M. Stocker (director), K. Baynes, B. Bradley, R. Daly, M. Walker

Title: *On Pessimism: A Study in Normative Psychology*

I argue that pessimism is a stance—or compound of attitudes, commitments, and intentions—which is not necessarily the product of an emotional problem, a character defect, or unjustified metaphysical assumptions. As such, pessimism can be warranted.

PRESENTATIONS

- Comments on Keisha Ray (McGovern Medical), “Vulnerable Black Bodies, Victim-blaming, and the Media’s Deadly Influence.” *International Association for the Philosophy of Death & Dying*, Syracuse University, May 2016.
- “The Secular Problem of Evil.” *Analytic Existentialism in Istanbul*, Boğaziçi University, Nov 2015.
- Comments on Eric Griez MD PhD (Maastricht), “The Neurobiology of Freedom.” Department of Psychiatry, SUNY Upstate Medical University, Nov 2012.
- “Self and Stance.” *Self Among Selves: Emotion and the Common Life*, Campbell Public Affairs Institute, Syracuse University, Oct 2011.
- “Pessimism, Acedia, Depression.” *The Future of Psychiatric Nosology*, Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry, Honolulu HI, May 2011.
- Comments on Maura E. Tumulty (Colgate), "Explaining Mismatches Between Belief and Behavior." Central APA, Minneapolis MN, Apr 2011.
- “Pessimism, Acedia, Depression.” Department of Psychiatry, SUNY Upstate Medical University, Mar 2011.
- Comments on Eric Silverman (St. Louis), “An Underappreciated Benefit of the Virtue of Love: Final Ends.” Eastern APA, Philadelphia PA, Dec 2008.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

As Primary Instructor (evaluations available upon request):

- Graduate:* Ethics and the Health Professions (25 students, fall semesters)
Healthcare Ethics and Advocacy (40 students, summer semesters)
- Upper-level Undergrad:* Honors Capstone: Neuroethics (1 student)
Philosophy of Religion (11 students)
- Lower-level Undergrad:* Ethics and the Media Professions (120 students per semester)
Ethics and Value Theory (30 students)
Introduction to Moral Theory (30 students)
Special Topics: Chinese Philosophy (25 students)
Theories of Knowledge and Reality (10 sections, 25 students each)
- As Teaching Assistant: Ethics and Value Theory (6 sections)
Formal Logic (2 sections)
Theories of Human Nature (2 sections)

ACADEMIC SERVICE AND AWARDS

- Meredith Teaching Recognition Award, Syracuse University, 2017
- Curriculum Development, “Occupational Therapy Ethics,” Le Moyne College, 2016-
- Curriculum Development, “Entertainment Media Ethics,” Syracuse University, 2008-
- Promotion & Tenure Committee, College of Arts & Sciences, Syracuse University, 2007-2008
- Co-Organizer (with Eric Schliesser), Philosophy Dissertation Workshop, 2006-2008

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

SPAWN 2010: Metaphysics (with Kris McDaniel & Joshua Spencer)
SPAWN 2009: Nature & Purpose (with Kara Richardson & Melissa Frankel)
SPAWN 2008: Perception (with Bence Nanay)
SPAWN 2007: Practical Reason (with Ernesto V. Garcia)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association
Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry
International Society for Chinese Philosophy
National Philosophical Counseling Association

GRADUATE COURSEWORK (*denotes official or unofficial audit)

Ethics and Value Theory: Bernard Williams' Ethics – Michael Stocker
Contemporary Moral Theory – Lynne McFall
Contemporary Normative Political Theory – Fred Frohock
Emotion, Value, and Knowledge – Michael Stocker*
Foundations of Analytic Ethics – Ben Bradley / Kris McDaniel*
Iris Murdoch – Michael Stocker*
Love – Michael Stocker*
Moral Disagreement – Christopher Gowans
Moral Psychology – Margaret Urban Walker *
Moral Psychology and Psychoanalysis – Michael Stocker
The Moral Work of Truth – Margaret Urban Walker
Weakness of Will – Ned McClennen / Michael Stocker*
Well-Being – Ben Bradley*

History of Philosophy: Plato – Dana Miller
Aristotle – Daryl Tress
Augustine – Gyula Klima*
Medieval Philosophical Theology – Brian Leftow
Aquinas – Brian Davies
Machiavelli – Michael Davis*
Early Modern – Michael Baur
Hume – John Greco*
Kant & Fichte – Michael Baur
Hegel – Merold Westphal
Nineteenth Century – Merold Westphal
Kierkegaard – Merold Westphal
American Pragmatism – Judith Green
Heidegger – John Van Buren
Wittgenstein – Margaret Urban Walker

Contemporary Thought: Contemporary Epistemology – Tamar Szabó Gendler
Feminist Epistemology – Linda Martín Alcoff*
Logic & Language – Tom McKay
Metaphysics – José Benardette
Philosophy of Language – Ishani Maitra
Post-Structuralism – John Van Buren
The Problem of Induction – Eric Hiddleston

REFERENCES

Michael Stocker (supervisor)
Emeritus Gutttag Professor of Ethics and Political Philosophy, Syracuse University
mastocke@syr.edu

Ben Bradley
Allan and Anita Sutton Professor of Philosophy, Syracuse University
wbradley@syr.edu

Robert W. Daly
Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry, SUNY Upstate Medical University
Emeritus Professor of Bioethics and Humanities, SUNY Upstate Medical University
dalyr@upstate.edu

Adam Morton
Visiting Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, University of British Columbia
adam.morton@ubc.ca

Margaret Urban Walker
Emerita Donald J. Schuenke Chair in Philosophy, Marquette University
margaret.walker@marquette.edu

Rebecca Garden (teaching reference)
Associate Professor of Bioethics and Humanities, SUNY Upstate Medical University
Executive Director, Consortium for Culture and Medicine
gardenr@upstate.edu

Michael Schoonmaker (teaching reference)
Associate Professor of Television-Radio-Film, Newhouse School, Syracuse University
Chair, Department of Television-Radio-Film, Newhouse School, Syracuse University
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