

Education: University of California, Riverside: Ph.D., Philosophy, June 2013.

Dissertation Philosophy, Phenomenology, and Neuroscience: The Groundwork for an Interdisciplinary Approach to a Comprehensive Understanding of Addiction

Georgia State University: M.A., Philosophy, August 2005.

University of Alabama: B.A., Major: Philosophy, August 2002.

University of Alabama: B.A., Major: History; Minor: Philosophy and Biology, May 1997.

Areas of Specialization: Philosophy of Action (At the intersection of the metaphysics of free will and moral responsibility), Philosophy of Addiction, Metaphysics of Death

Areas of Competence: Ethics (normative and applied), Bioethics, Philosophy of Law, Critical Thinking, Symbolic Logic, Social and Political Philosophy, Metaphysics (broadly construed), Philosophy of Religion

Employment:

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Philosophy: Auburn University at Montgomery 08/16 to Present

Visiting Assistant Professor: University of Alabama, Birmingham 08/14 to 05/16
Graduate

Research Assistant: University of California, Riverside 07/12 to 06/13 Science, Philosophy, and Theology of Immortality Project (Funded by the John Templeton Foundation) Teaching

Assistant: University of California, Riverside 09/06 to 12/07*; 09/09 to 06/12 Graduate Student

Fellow: University of California, Riverside 09/05 to 06/06

Graduate Teaching Assistant (Course Instructor): Georgia State University 08/03 to 05/05

Lecture Assistant: Georgia State University 08/02 to 05/03

* (I took a leave of absence in December 2007.)

Courses Designed and Taught:

Auburn University at Montgomery:

PHIL 2000: Reasoning and Critical Thinking Fall 2016 (2 sections) Fall 2017, Fall 2023 (online), Fall 2024 (online)

PHIL 2010: Introduction to Philosophy Spring 2017, Fall 2017 Spring 2018, Fall 2018 Spring 2019, Fall 2019 Spring 2020 Fall 2021. Fall 2022 Spring 2023 Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025

PHIL 2100: Applied Ethics Fall 2016 (2 sections), Spring 2017 (3 sections), Fall 2017 (2 sections), Spring 2018 (3 sections), Fall 2018 (2 sections), Fall 2019 (2 sections), Spring 2020 (2 sections), Fall 2020, online (2 sections), Fall, 2021 (online), Spring 2022 online Fall 2022 (2 sections), Fall 2023 (2 sections), Fall 2023 (2 sections), Spring 2024 (medical ethics focus)

PHIL 2030: Logic Spring 2021 (2 sections), Fall 2021 (2 sections), Spring 2022 (2 sections), Spring 2023 (2 sections), Spring 2024 (2 sections, one online), Spring 2025 (2 sections, one online)

PHIL 4150: Issues in Bioethics Spring 2018 (Directed Studies)

HNRS 4257: The Problem of Other People, Fall 2018 and Fall 2019

PHIL 4200/6200: Philosophy of Religion Spring 2019 and Fall 2022

PHIL 4110/6110: God and Morality Spring 2020

PHIL 4972/6972 (special topics): Philosophy of Addiction Spring 2021

PHIL 6100: Contemporary Problems in Free Will Summer 2017 (Directed Studies)

PHIL 6900 (Individual Study): Death, Value, and Meaning Spring 2024

University of Alabama, Birmingham:

PHL 315: Theories of Good and Evil Spring 2015

PHL 116: Bioethics Fall 2014, Spring 2015 (2 sections) Fall 2015 (3 sections), Spring 2016 (3 sections)

PHL 120: Practical Reasoning Fall 2014, Spring 2015

PHL 220: Social and Political Philosophy Fall 2014, Spring 2016

Georgia State University

PHIL 1010: Critical Thinking 08/03-05/05 (3 sections per semester)

Courses as a Teaching Assistant:

University of California, Riverside

Evil Spring 2012, Winter 2011, Fall 2007

Introduction to Philosophy Winter 2012, Spring 2010

Contemporary Moral Issues Fall 2011, Spring 2007

Reason, Belief, and Truth Spring 2011

Ethics and the Meaning of Life Winter 2010, Fall 2006

Law and Society Fall 2010, Fall 2009

Courses as a Grader and other Teaching Activity:

Huntington Learning Center SAT/ACT Test Prep Tutor/Instructor 11/08-09/09

Georgia State University: Great Questions of Philosophy Fall 2002

Philosophy of Mind Spring 2003

Publications (Peer Reviewed):

1. "Dueling Interveners: A Challenge to Frankfurt's Conception of Free Will and Acting Freely," *Thought: A Journal of Philosophy*, March 2012, Vol. 1, No. 1: pp. 56-61.
2. "Scheffler's 'Afterlife Conjecture' is Not That Compelling: How His 'Doomsday' and 'Infertility' Scenarios Might Robustly Preserve Value and Meaning." *Philosophia*, June 2017, 45(2), pp. 637-646
3. "Pleasure in Others' Misfortune: Three Distinct Types of Schadenfreude Found in Ancient, Modern, and Contemporary Philosophy." *The Journal of Value Inquiry*, February 2021, 55(1), pp. 175-188

Journals for Which I Have Served as a Referee/Blind Peer Reviewer:

1. Neuroethics
2. Philosophia
3. The Journal of Value Inquiry
4. Topoi

Presentations and Refereed Papers:

1. "Reducing the Energy Transfer Theory of Causation to the Counterfactual Theory" Georgia State University Graduate Student Conference, Atlanta, GA, 03/05

2. "The "Afterlife Conjecture" and Malleability in Meaningful Projects: A Critique of Samuel Scheffler's "Doomsday" and "Infertility" Scenarios" 2015 Alabama Philosophical Society conference, Pensacola, FL, 10/15
3. "How to Slander (and Otherwise Wrong) the Living After Their Death: An Argument for the Perpetual Moral Standing of the Living." 2018 Alabama Philosophical Society conference, Pensacola, FL, 9/18
4. "Disordered Emotional Attachment and Addiction" 2020 Association of Professional and Practical Ethics, Atlanta, GA, 2/20

Invited Talks/Presentations:

1. "Buddhism and the Concept of Evil" Invited talk given at Rock Valley College, Rockford, IL, 05/14
2. "The Many Faces of Schadenfreude" Invited presentation given to the UAB Philosophy Club, Birmingham, AL, 04/15
3. "Moving Toward the AI Singularity: Will Our Computers Decide to Kill Us?" Presentation given as part of the University of Alabama, Birmingham Big Ideas public lecture series, 11/15
4. "Pascal's Wager: Rational Justification for Believing in God?" Teaching demonstration given at the University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL, 07/16
5. "The Afterlife Beliefs of Several Eastern and Western Religious Traditions." Talk given as part of the Auburn University Montgomery "AUM Connected" lecture series, 2/18
6. "Do You Really want to Live Forever? Boredom, Identity, and the Desirability of Physical Immortality." Talk given as part of the Auburn University Montgomery "AUM Connected" lecture series, 4/18

Invited Commentator:

1. 2016 APA Pacific Division: "Does Death Restriction-Harm Us?" by Eric Yang, San Francisco, CA, 03/16

University, College, Department, and Community Service:

UAB:

1. Served as a judge for UAB Ethics Bowl team practices (team advanced to national finals)
2. Acted as interim UAB Philosophy Club faculty sponsor/supervisor during the absence of the appointed faculty sponsor (multiple occasions)
3. Was the advisor of record for 3 undergraduate philosophy majors at UAB (majors were allowed to pick their own advisors)

AUM:

1. Member of the Department of English and Philosophy Strategic Planning Committee (2019-20)
2. Philosophy Coordinator/ Coordinator of Philosophy Course Offerings
3. I have served as a peer reviewer (spring 2017, '18,'19, and '21) for the course design and teaching effectiveness of online Applied Ethics sections taught by adjunct colleagues at Auburn University at Montgomery
4. Taught, pro bono, a graduate level directed studies course (Summer 2017)
5. Selected to serve on the State of Alabama S.T.A.R.S course curriculum committee (4 year term expired 2021)
6. Assist the AUM Quiz Bowl team and the faculty sponsor with weekly practice (2018- 19 school year)
7. AUM Connected Speaker (2 talks given in the spring of 2018)
8. Appointed as Coordinator of Philosophy Classes, Department of English and Philosophy (2019)
9. Search/hiring committee member, Spring 2021, for the position of Philosophy Lecturer
10. Became a member of the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Council (reviewing budgets associated with internal grant requests)

11. Served on the Philosophy Curriculum Committee (ad hoc: to determine how to present more diverse ideas in philosophy classes, and how to measure effectiveness, work ongoing)
12. Chair of the Philosophy Courses Committee (ad hoc: eliminated courses which AUM no longer intends to offer, discussed and decided on the inclusion of certain new courses)
13. Served on the Department of English and Philosophy undergraduate scholarship committee (2023)
14. Served on the 2024 Durr Scholarship Committee (university wide) for outstanding freshman essay. (Theme: Someone who showed great courage in pursuing a moral goal.)
15. Served on the Department of English and Philosophy awards committee (Spring, 2024).
16. UNIV invited lecturer (Dr. Knigge): "Philosophy and Logical Reasoning." (Fall, 2025)

Community Service:

1. Member of Ethics Advisory Committee Baptist South Hospital (Montgomery, AL) (August 2018-August 2019)
2. Volunteer Judge for the National Christian Forensics and Communications Association NCFCA (2018 Regional Tournament)

Web Resources:

The following are background research papers that I authored for the SPT Immortality Project website in my capacity as a research assistant. The project is funded by a 5 million dollar grant from the John Templeton Foundation for the study of the science, philosophy, and theology of immortality.

“Islamic Belief about the Afterlife”

<http://www.sptimmortalityproject.com/background/islamic-belief-about-the-afterlife/>

“Buddhist Views of the Afterlife”

<http://www.sptimmortalityproject.com/background/buddhist-views-of-the-afterlife/>

“Paths to the Afterlife in the Hindu Faith”

<http://www.sptimmortalityproject.com/background/paths-to-the-afterlife-in-the-hindu-faith/> “Christianity and the Afterlife”

<http://www.sptimmortalityproject.com/background/christianity-and-the-afterlife/>

“The Cultural and Historical Development and Decline of Immortality in Judaism”

<http://www.sptimmortalityproject.com/background/the-cultural-and-historical-development-and-decline-of-immortality-in-judaism/>

“Three Questions for Comparing and Contrasting the Afterlife Beliefs of Six Prominent World Religions” <http://www.sptimmortalityproject.com/background/three-questions-for-comparing-and-contrasting-the-afterlife-beliefs-of-six-prominent-world-religions/>

Annotated Bibliography (not credited on the website)

(<http://www.sptimmortalityproject.com/bibliography/>)

Honors/Awards

Dean's Distinguished Fellow, University of California-Riverside, 2005 to 2006.

Invited commentator and instructor at the 2015 SPT Immortality Project Young Scholars Workshop held 05/23-5/27/15 at the University of California, Riverside. Honorarium Received.

Miscellanea

Passed the departmental examination in logic at Georgia State University (05/05, taken in lieu of the department's logic course)

Passed the General Examination at Georgia State University (04/04, taken in lieu of a third seminar)

Demonstrated reading proficiency in German (UCR departmental exam passed 06/11)

References

John Martin Fischer, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy: University of California, Riverside; Department of Philosophy; 1604 HMNSS Building; Riverside, CA 92521. john.fischer@ucr.edu 951-827-3762 send.2015.0181E5CB8C@interfolio.com

Agnieszka Jaworska, Professor: University of California, Riverside; Department of Philosophy; 1604 HMNSS Building; Riverside, CA 92521. 951-827-1517 agnieszka.jaworska@ucr.edu send.2013.2A318AF5E3@interfolio.com

Michael Nelson, Professor: University of California, Riverside; Department of Philosophy; 1604 HMNSS Building; Riverside, CA 92521. 951-827-1510 michael.nelson@ucr.edu send.2015.654D1106D9@interfolio.com

Gregory Pence, Professor (emeritus): University of Alabama, Birmingham; Department of Philosophy; HB 414A 900 13th Street South; Birmingham, AL 35294. 205-934-4805 pence@uab.edu send.Pence.51AF1FF054@interfolio.com

Howard Wettstein, Professor: University of California, Riverside; Department of Philosophy; 1604 HMNSS Building; Riverside, CA 92521. 951-827-1520 howard.wettstein@ucr.edu send.2013.5D7F439108@interfolio.com

Sandra Dwyer, Senior Lecturer: Georgia State University; Department of Philosophy; 25 Park Place, Suite 1600; Atlanta, GA 30303. 404-413-6100 sdwyer@gsu.edu send.University.8D7BACD7E4@interfolio.com

Kevin McCain, Professor: University of Alabama, Birmingham; Department of Philosophy; HB 414A 900 13th Street South Birmingham, AL 35294. 205-934-4805 mccain@uab.edu send.Letter.25557EC5FC@interfolio.com