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Area of Specialization: Environmental Philosophy

Areas of Concentration: Ethics, History of Philosophy, Philosophy of Technology, Asian Philosophy

EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor of the Practice, *Boston College* Fall 2018-present

- Full time teaching position with a three-year renewable contract

Assistant Professor of the Practice, *Boston College* Fall 2013-Summer 2018

Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellowship, *Fordham University* Fall 2011-Spring 2013

EDUCATION

Fordham University, Bronx, NY Fall 2004-Spring 2011

PhD, May 2011

Dissertation Title: "Nature, Nihilism, and Life in Heidegger and Nietzsche:
Naturalistic Metaphysical Foundations for Environmental Ethics"

M.A., May 2006, Comprehensive Exams in Ancient, Medieval, Modern

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA Fall 2000-Spring 2004

B.A., Philosophy, *magna cum laude*, May 2004

PUBLICATIONS

Books

1. *Naturalizing Heidegger: His Confrontation with Nietzsche, His Contributions to Environmental Philosophy* (SUNY Press Series in *Environmental Philosophy and Ethics*, ed. J. Baird Callicott and John Van Buren, 2015).

Peer Reviewed Articles

1. "The World As It is: A Vision for a Social Science (and Policy) Turn in Climate Justice," in *A Research Agenda for Climate Justice*, ed. Paul Harris (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2019)
2. "Nietzsche and Ecology Revisited: the Biological Basis of Value," *Environmental*

- Ethics* vol. 38, no. 1, Spring 2016, pp. 19-45.
3. "The Risky Business of Anthropocentric Indirect Arguments: A Response to Kevin Elliott," *Ethics, Policy, and the Environment* vol. 17, no 3, Fall 2014, pp. 1-4.
 4. "Heidegger and the Question Concerning Biology: Life, Soul, and Nature in the Early Aristotle Lecture Courses," *Epoché: a Journal for the History of Philosophy* vol. 18, no. 1, Fall 2013, pp. 161-186.
 5. "Nietzsche's Non-Reductive Naturalism: Evolution, Teleology, and Value," *Pli: The Warwick Journal of Philosophy* vol. 23, 2012, pp. 128-152.
 6. "Zen in Heidegger's Way," *Journal of East-West Thought*, vol. 2, no. 4, 2012, pp. 113-137.
 7. "Nihilism, Nature, and the Collapse of the Cosmos," *Cosmos and History: The Journal of Natural and Social Philosophy* vol. 7, no.2, 2011, pp. 6-25.
 8. "Spirit and/or Flesh: Merleau-Ponty's Encounter with Hegel," *PhaenEx: Journal of Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture* vol. 4, no. 1, Spring/Summer 2009, pp. 59-83.

Invited Articles

1. "Heidegger and Integral Ecology: Evolution, Cosmology, Panpsychism," *Dancing with Sophia: Integral Philosophy on the Verge* (Albany: SUNY Press, 2019).
2. "Breaking the Spell of the Immanent Frame: Charles Taylor's *A Secular Age*," in *Rethinking Secularization: Philosophy and the Prophecy of a Secular Age*, ed. Gary Gabor and Herbert DeVriese (New York: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2009), pp. 177-208.

Review Essays

1. "Waking Life: Reflections on Evan Thompson's 'Contemplative Neuroscience'" *Comparative and Continental Philosophy* vol. 8, no. 1, Spring 2016, pp. 99-114.
2. "The Uses and Abuses of Metaphysical Language in Heidegger, Derrida, and Daoism," *Comparative and Continental Philosophy* vol. 3, no.1, Spring 2011, pp. 113-124.

Book Reviews

1. *Nietzsche, Naturalism, and Normativity*, ed. Christopher Janaway and Simon Robertson (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), in *Philosophy in Review* vol. 34, no. 1-2, 2014, pp. 37-39. (invited)
2. *What's So Good About Biodiversity?*, by Donald S. Maier (New York: Springer, 2012), in *Environmental Philosophy* vol. 10, no. 1, Spring 2013, pp. 120-124. (invited)
3. *Nietzsche's Anti-Darwinism*, by Dirk R. Johnson (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010), in *Environmental Philosophy* vol. 8, no. 2, Fall 2011, pp. 199-203.
4. *Nietzsche's Animal Philosophy*, by Vanessa Lemm (New York: Fordham University Press, 2009), in *New Nietzsche Studies* vol. 8, no. 3, Winter 2011, pp. 196-199.
5. *Integral Ecology: Uniting Multiple Perspectives on the Natural World*, Sean Esbjorn-Hargens and Michael E. Zimmerman (Boston: Integral Books, 2009), in *Environmental Ethics* vol. 32, Spring 2010, pp. 91-94.

COURSES TAUGHT

Boston College

Fall 2013-Present

PERSPECTIVES ON WESTERN CULTURE (11 sections, 2013-2019)

Year-long Great Books course that examines the Western philosophical and theological traditions with a view to the question, “What is the best way to live?” Focus on classical and modern political philosophy and ethics.

Authors include Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, Hobbes, Machiavelli, Locke, Rousseau, Kant, Mill, Wollstonecraft, Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud.

ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS (Spring 2015, Spring 2016)

Inquiry into ethical theory focusing on normative theories related to the environment, such as anthropocentrism, biocentrism, and ecocentrism; consideration of economic, political, scientific, and ethical dimensions of contemporary environmental problems such as hydraulic fracturing, renewable energy, and climate change.

HUMANITY’S PLACE IN NATURE (Fall 2016)

Introduction to philosophy and ethics that focuses on the connections between nature and ethics. Examines the evolution of the idea of nature throughout the Western tradition through studying key ancient, medieval, and modern thinkers such as Aristotle, Aquinas, Bacon, and Darwin.

Includes a primer on environmental ethics in preparation for the spring semester on climate change.

HOW TO SAVE THE WORLD: ETHICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Investigation of the ethics of climate change in relation to climate science, economics, energy policy, psychology, and national and international politics and policy. (2 Sections, Spring 2018, Fall 2019)

SCIENCE AND ETHICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE (Spring 2017)

Team-taught interdisciplinary course examining the foundations of climate science, the moral and policy dimensions of climate change, and the relationships between them.

PHILOSOPHY AS A WAY OF LIFE (2 sections, Fall 2019, Fall 2020)

Presents philosophy in the spirit of French scholar Pierre Hadot’s notion of philosophy a “way of life,” an inherently practical discipline designed to help people flourish. In addition to examining and evaluating philosophical texts, students experiment with various reflective practices to get a sense for what it might be like to live like a philosopher. Examines six paths: three Western traditions—Aristotelianism, Epicureanism, and Stoicism--and three Eastern traditions—Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism.

PLAYING GOD: TECHNOLOGY AND THE HUMAN CONDITION (Fall 2019)

Introduction to the philosophy of technology that examines the history of technology; literature (Shelley's *Frankenstein*); classical (Aristotle, Marx, and Bacon), modern (Heidegger, Jonas, Dreyfus), and contemporary thinkers (Nicholas Carr, Jaron Lanier, Nick Bostrum); film (e.g., *The Matrix*, *Minority Report*, *Her*); and television (*Black Mirror*). We focus on the existential and ethical issues raised by digital technology, particularly the internet, smart phones, social media, data surveillance, artificial intelligence, and transhumanism.

SELF-KNOWLEDGE AND DISCERNMENT (Spring 2019)

A study of the philosophical and spiritual dimensions of walking and pilgrimage that culminates in taking the class to Spain to walk the Camino de Santiago. Authors include Rousseau, Thoreau, Nietzsche, and traditions such as contemplative Christianity and Zen Buddhism.

KORU MINDFULNESS (5 sections, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019)

A non-credit, four-week course teaching an evidence-based curriculum in meditation and mindfulness skills for college student.

Woods College of Advancing Studies at Boston College

Fall 2014-Present

PHILOSOPHICAL ETHICS (Fall 2015, Fall 2016)

Survey of major ethical theories—e.g., virtue ethics (Aristotle), utilitarianism (Mill), deontology (Kant)—contemporary commentators (e.g., James Rachels, Michel Sandel, and Russ Shafer-Landau) and case studies, e.g., abortion, euthanasia, famine relief, just war/counterterrorism.

BASIC PROBLEMS OF PHILOSOPHY (Fall 2014)

Introduction to the Western and Eastern philosophical traditions that explores the notion of philosophy as a way of life. Examines selected works of key thinkers such as Plato, Aristotle, Epicurus, Marcus Aurelius, St. Augustine, Confucius, and the Buddha.

Fordham University, Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellow
Teaching Fellow

Fall 2011-Summer 2013
Spring 2007-Spring 2011

ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS (3 sections, 2012-13)

Survey of major areas in environmental ethics, e.g., animal rights, biocentrism, ecocentrism, and deep ecology, and case studies, e.g., climate change, Keystone XL pipeline, and sustainable business. Cross-listed with Environmental Science, Environmental Policy, and Urban Studies programs

PHILOSOPHICAL ETHICS (9 sections, 2007-2012)

Survey of major ethical theories—e.g., virtue ethics (Aristotle),

utilitarianism (Mill), deontology (Kant)—contemporary commentators (e.g., James Rachels, Michel Sandel, and Russ Shafer-Landau) and case studies, e.g., abortion, famine relief, just war/counterterrorism).

PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN NATURE (11 sections, 2008-2013)

Introduction to logic and survey of Asian, ancient, medieval, and modern approaches to human nature that covers philosophers such as Plato, Aristotle, Buddha, Confucius, Augustine, Aquinas, Descartes, Hume, Hobbes, Friedman, and Rawls.

Center for Talented Youth, Johns Hopkins University, Bristol, RI, Instructor Summer 2007

EASTERN PHILOSOPHY (1 section)

An introduction to the major Eastern traditions, including Buddhism, Taoism, and Confucianism.

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA, Teaching Assistant

Spring 2003

THESES DIRECTED

1. Aaron Salzmann, "Creation is the Order of Love: A Critique of *Laudato Si*," Boston College Fall 2019-Spring 2020 (honors thesis)
2. Maura Lester, "The Ethical Case for Fossil Fuel Divestment," Boston College Fall 2016-Spring 2017 (honors thesis)
3. Jiwoon Kong, "Kant, Music, and Aesthetics," Boston College, Fall 2015-Spring 2016 (senior thesis)
4. Grace Son, "Philosophy of Imagination," Boston College, Fall-Spring 2015 (senior thesis)
5. James Baylor, "Existentialism," Boston College, Spring 2014 (independent study)

PRESENTATIONS

1. "Jobs, Jobs, Jobs for Philosophers: A Report on the *Wisdom at Work* Podcast," *Public Philosophy Network Conference*, East Lansing, MI, October 19th, 2019.
2. "Audio and the Academic Career," *Sound Education: An Educational Audio Conference*, Harvard University, October 12th, 2019.
3. "What (Else) Philosophers Can Do: How We Can Expand (Save?) the Profession," *Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle at 57th Annual Society for Phenomenological and Existential Philosophy*, State College, October 18th, 2018.
4. "Consider the Podcast: The Hard Case of Tim Ferriss," 4th *Biannual Public Philosophy Network Conference*, Boulder, CO, February 9th, 2018.
5. "Can Democracy Solve the Climate Problem?" (invited) *Educating for Democracy: Philosophy and Society at the Crossroads*, Boston College, November 8th, 2017.
6. "Heidegger and the Question of Nature" (invited) *Heidegger and Nature Workshop*, Australian Catholic University, June 16th, 2017.
7. "Naturalizing Heidegger: A Response to Critics," 20th *Annual International*

- Association for Environmental Philosophy* at SPEP, Salt Lake City, UT, October 24th, 2016.
8. "Wisdom at Work: Philosophy in the Agora," 11th *East-West Philosophers' Conference*, Honolulu, HI May 26th, 2016.
 9. "Integrating Multiple Perspectives on Environmental Problems: An Experiment in Environmental Pedagogy and the Value of Philosophy for Environmental Studies," *Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences*, San Diego, CA, June 27th, 2015.
 10. "Waking, Dreaming, Awakening: Reflections on Evan Thompson's 'Contemplative Neuroscience' and 'Quantum Phenomenology,'" 10th *Annual Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle*, Reykjavik, Iceland, May 15th, 2015.
 11. "Integral Ecology: A New Epistemology of Environmental Problems," 18th *Annual International Association for Environmental Philosophy* at SPEP, New Orleans, LA, October 21st, 2014.
 12. "Enlightenment and the Emotions: William James and the Varieties of Buddhist Experience," *The Role of the Emotions in Religious Experience: Philosophical and Theological Approaches*, Konstanz, Germany, July 21st, 2014.
 13. "Beyond the Ivory Tower," (invited) 9th *Annual Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle*, Santa Barbara, CA, March 21th, 2014.
 14. "Hans Jonas' Solution to Nihilism: Life as the Missing Link between Ethics and Ontology," 17th *Annual International Association for Environmental Philosophy* at SPEP, Eugene, OR, October 28th, 2013.
 15. "Meditation Before Class" (invited), video presentation produced with the Fordham University Center for Teaching Excellence, viewable online: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sb50Rq5GsU>.
 16. "Philosophy as a Way of Life: A Response to Nihilism" (invited), Boston College Philosophy Department, Chestnut Hill, MA, March 18th, 2013.
 17. "Integral Ecology and Continental Environmental Thought: Toward an Intelligible Cosmos," *International Association for Environmental Philosophy* at the *American Philosophical Association*, Atlanta, GA, December 29th, 2012.
 18. Commentator on "From Science to Environmental Value: An Argument for a Critical Understanding of the Normative Role of Biodiversity," by Nicolae Morar, Ted Toadvine, and Brendan Bohannon, *International Society for Environmental Ethics* at the *American Philosophical Association*, Atlanta, GA, December 29th, 2012.
 19. "Nietzsche's Non-Reductive Naturalism: Evolution, Teleology, Value" 16th *Annual International Association for Environmental Philosophy* at SPEP, Rochester, NY, November 5th, 2012.
 20. "Comparative Mythology, Comparative Philosophy: Joseph Campbell, Ken Wilber, and the Meaning of Myth," 7th *Annual Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle*, San Diego, CA, March 10th, 2012.
 21. "Heidegger's Early Encounters with Aristotle" (invited), New York City Consortium Phenomenology Reading Group, New School for Social Research, March 5th, 2012.
 22. "How to Become Professionally Versatile in Graduate School" (invited), Fordham University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Orientation, August 23rd, 2011.
 23. "Heidegger's Naturalism: Life, Soul, and Nature in the Early Aristotle Lectures,"

- Martin Heidegger: Nature, Art, Technology*, Messkirch, Germany, May 25th, 2011.
24. "From Comparison to Convergence: Reflections on Steven Burik's Comparisons of Heidegger, Derrida, and Daoism," *6th Annual Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle*, Cork, Ireland, March 5th, 2011.
 25. "Hans Jonas' Philosophy of Nature: Phenomenology or Metaphysics?" *14th Annual Meeting for the International Association for Environmental Philosophy at SPEP*, November 7th, 2010.
 26. "Heidegger and the Question Concerning Biology: Evolution and the Human/Animal Divide," *21st Century Heidegger Conference*, University College Dublin, Sept. 11th, 2010.
 27. "Nietzsche and Nishitani on Overcoming Naturalism," *Collegium Phaenomenologicum Participant's Conference*, Citta di Castello, Italy, July 11th, 2010.
 28. "Integral Ecology vs. Heidegger: Cosmology, Panpsychism, and Evolution," *13th Annual Meeting for the International Association for Environmental Philosophy at SPEP*, Arlington, VA, November 1st, 2009.
 29. "A Deeper Humanism: A Comparison of Nietzsche's *Übermensch* and the Bodhisattva of Mahayana Buddhism," *Uehiro Cross-Currents Comparative Graduate Philosophy Conference*, University of Hawai'i Manoa, March 19th, 2009.
 30. "Zen in Heidegger's Way," *Uehiro Cross-Currents Comparative Graduate Philosophy Conference*, University of Hawai'i Manoa, March 19th, 2008.
 31. "Matter, Metaphysics, and Goo: Against Prime Matter in Aristotle's Natural Philosophy," *Fourth International Conference on Ancient and Medieval Philosophy*, Fordham University, October 20th, 2007.
 32. "Method in Gadamer's *Truth and Method*," *Long Island Philosophical Society*, October 13th, 2007.
 33. "Husserlian Phenomenology: Modern or Postmodern?" *University of Calgary Philosophy Graduate Conference*, September 28th, 2007 (*in absentia*).

Responses

1. "Taking Nature Seriously in the Anthropocene," Donald S. Maier, *International Society for Environmental Ethics*, Allenspark, CO June 18th, 2014.

Talks to Campus and Student Groups

1. "Why Neoliberalism Failed," Boston College, St. Thomas More Society, February 17th, 2020.
2. "Nietzsche: Become Who You Are," Boston College, Perspectives Program General Lecture, March 25th, 2019
3. "What is Integral Spirituality?" *Boston College School of Theology and Ministry*, April 2016
4. "Mindfulness and Leadership (or, how to be less crazy and more present)" *Emerging Leader Program*, Boston College, March 2016
5. "Ethics and the Environment," *EcoPledge Green Week*, Boston College, April 2015
6. "What is Spiritual Exercise? Ignatian and Buddhist Perspectives" Ignition Guest

- Lecture, Boston College, April 2015
7. "Finding Happiness at Boston College," *Faculty Connections*, Boston College, February 2015

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Berry Fund for Public Philosophy, *American Philosophical Association*, Spring 2020 (\$1,000 grant for *Wisdom at Work* podcast)
- Faculty Fellowship (semester-long sabbatical), *Boston College*, Spring 2020
- Minor Grant (\$2500), Institute for Liberal Arts, *Boston College*, Fall 2017
- Kolvenbach Grant (\$1,000), *Boston College*, 2015
- Research Fellowship, *Fordham University*, 2009-2010
- Presidential Scholarship, *Fordham University*, 2004-2009, 2010-2011
- Summer Fellowship, *Fordham University*, Summer 2008, Summer 2010
- Travel Grant, *Fordham University*, Spring 2008, Spring 2009, Fall 2010, Spring 2011

REVIEWER

Journal of Humanistic Psychology
Integral Review
Hegel Bulletin
Environment, Space, Place
Sophia
Journal of Transcendental Philosophy
Philosophy East and West
Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics
Science and Engineering Ethics
Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy
Environmental Ethics
Journal for the Pacific Association for the Continental Tradition
Techné: Research in Philosophy and Technology
Comparative and Continental Philosophy
Epoché: A Journal of the History of Philosophy
Environmental Philosophy
Constructivist Foundations

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND TRAINING

- Podcast: *Wisdom at Work: Philosophy Beyond the Ivory Tower*, Spring 2020-present
 - -features interviews with philosophers who left the academy for other careers or academics who moonlight doing practical, public, or policy work
 - -from these interviews, I distill patterns and synthesize information that can be fed back into undergraduate and graduate programs to train philosophers for multiple lines of work

- *National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Seminar, “Reviving Philosophy as a Way of Life,” Wesleyan University, July 10th-20th.*
- Certified Mindfulness Teacher, *Koru Mindfulness Center*, Durham, NC, Spring 2018
- Resilience Project Committee, Boston College, Fall 2015-Fall 2017
- Fulbright Interview Committee, Boston College, Fall 2015
- “Halftime” (Student Retreat), Boston College Center for Student Formation
 - -Faculty Facilitator, August 25th-27th, 2015
- Summer Session on Contemplative Pedagogy, *Association for Contemplative Mind in Higher Education*, August 2nd-7th, 2015, Smith College, Northampton, MA.
- 350 Massachusetts
 - -Co-coordinator for *Climate Legacy Campaign*, July 2014-December 2014
 - -community organizing around state energy and environmental policy
- Pre-Major Advisor, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston College, Fall 2014-present
- “Meeting of the Minds,” Boston College Philosophy Department
 - -Faculty Facilitator, Spring 2014, Spring 2015
- Ignition, Boston College Student Organization
 - -Faculty Advisor, January 2014-present
- LeaderShape Institute (Student Retreat), Boston College
 - -Faculty Cluster Facilitator, January 2014
- Objective Imagination Enterprises
 - -Advisor, August 2013-present
- Socrates Café Brooklyn
 - -Founder and Facilitator, November 2012-Spring 2013
- Certificate in Health Care Ethics, July 2012
 - -Fordham University
- Certified Philosophical Counselor
 - -American Philosophical Practitioners Association, July 2011
- Professional Versatility Committee, Fordham University
 - -Founder and Chair, Spring 2011-Spring 2012
- Jesuit Pedagogy Seminar, Fordham University, Spring 2011
 - -Interdisciplinary seminar on theory, methods, and applications of Jesuit pedagogy
- Interfaith Zen Sitting and Discussion Group, Fordham University
 - -Founder and Facilitator, January 2011-Present
- “Writing Across the Curriculum” Workshop, William Paterson University, January 2011
- Higher Education Opportunity Program, Fordham University
 - -Workshop Designer and Facilitator, “What is Critical Thinking? How to Read and Write Philosophy,” October 18 and November 8, 2010
 - -Tutor, January 2010-Spring 2011
- American Ages Undergraduate Lecture Series, Fordham University
 - -Advisory Board Member, Spring 2009-Spring 2011

REFERENCES

- John Van Buren, Professor of Philosophy, Director of Environmental Studies Program, Fordham University

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- Michael E. Zimmerman, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, University of Colorado at Boulder

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- Jason Wirth, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Seattle University

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