

Michael Wiitala

Curriculum Vitae, August 2021

Cleveland State University
Department of Philosophy & Comparative Religion
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- SPECIALIZATION** Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy, Plato, Neo-Platonism
- COMPETENCE** History of Philosophy, Medieval Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy, 19th Century Philosophy, Phenomenology, Philosophy of Religion
- LANGUAGES** Ancient Greek, Latin
- EMPLOYMENT** Assistant College Lecturer of Philosophy, Cleveland State University, 2016–present
Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Cleveland State University, 2015–2016
Instructor of Philosophy (full-time), Bowling Green State University, 2014–2015
Adjunct Instructor of Philosophy, Asbury University, 2012–2013
Graduate Instructor in Philosophy, University of Kentucky, 2009–2013
- EDUCATION** Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Kentucky, August, 2014
Dissertation: *Truth and Falsehood in Plato's Sophist*; Eric Sanday, chair
M.A., Philosophy, Franciscan University of Steubenville, December, 2008
B.Ph., Philosophy, Ave Maria College, December, 2005
- HONORS AND AWARDS** Diversity Teaching, Research, and Action (TRACTION) Grant to Redesign PHL 262: Medieval Philosophy, Diversity Institute, Cleveland State University, 2021
2018-2020 Teaching Enhancement Award for Redesigning Introduction to Philosophy, Center for Faculty Excellence, Cleveland State University
Golden Apple Teaching Award, Cleveland State University Young Alumni Council, 2018
International Society for Neo-Platonic Studies Travel Grant, 2016
Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of Kentucky, 2013–2014
University of Kentucky Philosophy Department Annual Essay Prize, 2013
"Plato's *Sophist* on Non-being and Negatively Defined Forms"
Daniel R. Reedy Quality Achievement Award, University of Kentucky, 2009–2012
Ave Maria College Award for Excellence in Philosophy, 2006
- PUBLICATIONS** **Book Chapters**
"Every Happy Man is a God: Boethius on Deification," in *Deification in the Latin Patristic Tradition*, ed. Jared Ortiz (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2019), 231-252
"Searching for the 'Why': Plotinus on Being and the One beyond Being," in *A Companion to Ancient Philosophy*, ed. Sean D. Kirkland and Eric Sanday (Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2018), 275-285

PUBLICATIONS
(CONTINUED)

with Paul DiRado, "In What Sense Does the One Exist? Existence and *Hypostasis* in Plotinus," in *Platonic Pathways: Selected Papers from the Fourteenth Annual Conference of the International Society for Neoplatonic Studies*, ed. John F. Finamore and Danielle A. Layne (Gloucestershire, UK: The Prometheus Trust, 2018), 77-92

Journal Articles

"Dionysius the Areopagite on Whether Philosophy Should be Used in Service of Religion (*thrêskeia*)," *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association*, forthcoming

"The Argument against the Friends of the Forms Revisited: *Sophist* 248a4-249d5," *Apeiron* 51.2, 2018, 171-200

"Non-Being and the Structure of Privative Forms in Plato's *Sophist*," *Epoché: A Journal for the History of Philosophy* 19.2, 2015, 279-288

"The Forms in the *Euthyphro* and *Statesman*: A Case against the Developmental Reading of Plato's Dialogues," *International Philosophical Quarterly* 54.4, 2014, 393-410

"Desire and the Good in Plotinus," *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 21.4, 2013, 649-666

"Anselm's Ontological Argument and Aristotle's *Elegktikōs Apodeixai*," *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 86, 2012, 129-140

"It Depends on What One Means by 'Eternal': Why Boethius is not an Eternalist," *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 84, 2010, 253-261

"Negating the Image: The Apophatic Character of Philosophical *Logos* in Plato's *Phaedrus*," *Kinesis: Graduate Journal in Philosophy* 37.1, 2010, 56-65

"Contemplation and Action within the Context of the *Kalon*: A Reading of the *Nicomachean Ethics*," *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 83, 2009, 173-182

"The Metaphysics of Duns Scotus and Onto-Theology," *Philosophy Today* 53, Supplement, 2009, 158-163

Book Reviews

Plato: A Guide for the Perplexed, Gerald A. Press (New York: Continuum, 2007), *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 83.4, 2009, 630-634

INVITED
PRESENTATIONS

"Expertise as Proof of Platonic Forms," Tri-C Philosophy Club, Cuyahoga Community College, Cleveland, OH, April 28, 2021

"Space and the Lesser Gods in Plato's *Timaeus*," Online *Timaeus* Workshop, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, May 21, 2020

"Platonic Causes in *Phaedo* 96a-102d," University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN, November 10, 2017

"Measure, Soul, and the Three Polities in *Laws* V," Toronto Summer Seminar in Philosophy: Plato's *Laws*, Toronto, Ontario, August 9-19, 2017

"Forms as Norms in the *Phaedo*," University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, January 27, 2017

"Interpreting Anselm's Ontological Argument," Indiana University – Purdue University Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne, IN, March 31, 2015

"Plotinus on the Will of the One: *Ennead* VI.8.7-13," Toronto Summer Seminar in Philosophy: Plotinus on What There Is, Toronto, Ontario, June 9-14, 2014

REFEREED

PRESENTATIONS

"The Nature, *Ousia*, and Form of Non-Being: Sophist 258a11-e2," Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Online, November 12, 2021

"Dionysius the Areopagite on Whether Philosophy Should be Used in Service of Religion (*thrêskeia*)," American Catholic Philosophical Association, St. Louis, MO, November 18-21, 2021

"*Exsistere* in *Consolation of Philosophy* 3.10: To Exist or to Appear?" Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy Inaugural Conference, Notre Dame, IN, October 4-6, 2021

"*Noein* and *Einai* in Fragment 3 of Parmenides' Poem," *Eleatica* XII, Ascea, Italy, September 26-29, 2021

"The *Koinônia* of Non-Being and *Logos* in the *Sophist* Account of Falsehood," International Plato Society Mid-Term Meeting, Pontifical University of Peru, Lima, Peru, July 12-22, 2021

"Parts of Difference in Plato's *Sophist*," Ancient Philosophy Society, Online Conference, June 10-12, 2021

"The Identity of *Noein* and *Einai* in the Poem of Parmenides," Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, April 22-24, 2021

"Negative Forms and Parts of Difference in Plato's *Sophist*," Ohio Philosophical Association, Akron, OH, April 17, 2021

"Three Referents of 'Non-Being' in the *Sophist*: The Nature of Non-Being, the Form Non-Being, and Things that Are Not," Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Newport News, VA, November 16-17, 2019

"Intelligence as a Cause in the *Phaedo*," America Philosophical Association, Central Division, Denver, CO, February 20-23, 2019

"Intelligence as a Cause: *Phaedo* 96a-99c," Central States Philosophical Association, Buffalo, NY, October 26-27, 2018

"Being as *Dunamis* and Being an Entity: *Sophist* 247d8-e4," Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Newport News, VA, October 20-21, 2018

"Every Happy Man is a God: *Consolation of Philosophy* III.10.1-25," International Society for Neoplatonic Studies, Los Angeles, CA, June 13-16, 2018

"Searching for the 'Why': Plotinus on the One beyond Being," America Philosophical Association, Central Division, Chicago, IL, February 21-24, 2018

"Forms and Causality in the *Phaedo*," Ohio Philosophical Association, Ada, OH, April 8, 2017

REFEREED
PRESENTATIONS
(CONTINUED)

"Forms, Causes, and Why-Questions in the *Phaedo*," Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy with the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science, New York, NY, October 28-30, 2016

with Paul DiRado, "In What Sense Does the One Exist? Existence and *Hypostasis* in Plotinus," International Society for Neoplatonic Studies, Seattle, WA, June 15-18, 2016

"Forms in Motion: The Argument against the Friends of the Forms in Plato's *Sophist*," Ancient Philosophy Society, Portland, ME, April 28-May 1, 2016

"*Kineisthai* and the Forms in *Sophist* 248b2-249d5," Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy at the America Philosophical Association Pacific Division, San Francisco, CA, March 30-April 3, 2016

"Self-Moving Motion and the Motion of Forms: *Laws* X and *Sophist* 248b2-249d5," West Coast Plato Workshop, Tucson, AZ, May 2-3, 2015

"The Motion of Forms: *Sophist* 248b2-249d5," Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy with the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science, New York, NY, October 24-26, 2014

"Non-Being and the Structure of Privative Forms in Plato's *Sophist*," Ancient Philosophy Society, Tampa, FL, April 24-27, 2014

"Normativity and Being in *Sophist* 255e3-256d10," Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy with the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science, New York, NY, October 11-13, 2013

"The Forms and Explanatory Priority in Plato's *Euthyphro*," Northwest Philosophy Conference, Forest Grove, OR, October 4-5, 2013

"Plato's *Statesman* on the Goal of Philosophical Inquiry," Kentucky Philosophical Association, Lexington, KY, March 23, 2013

"Anselm's Ontological Argument and Aristotle's *Elegktikōs Apodeixai*," American Catholic Philosophical Association, Los Angeles, CA, November 2-4, 2012

"The Five Greatest Kinds as Preconditions for Any True *Logos*," Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy with the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science, New York, NY, October 19-21, 2012

"The Ability to Divide *Kat' Eidē*: *Statesman* 285d-287a and the Value of the Method of Division," Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy with the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science, New York, NY, October 21-23, 2011

"The Tripartite Soul and the Precise Sense of Ruling in Plato's *Republic*," Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium, Washington, PA, September 10, 2011

"Self-Knowledge and Nietzsche on the Problem of Socrates," Kentucky Philosophical Association, Crestview Hills, KY, November 20, 2010

"It Depends on What One Means by 'Eternal': Why Boethius is not an Eternalist," American Catholic Philosophical Association, Baltimore, MD, November 5-7, 2010

- REFEREED PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)
- “Negating the Image: The Apophatic Character of Philosophical *Logos* in Plato’s *Phaedrus*,” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Memphis, TN, March 5-6, 2010
- “Contemplation and Action within the Context of the *Kalon*: A Reading of the *Nicomachean Ethics*,” American Catholic Philosophical Association, New Orleans, LA, November 13-15, 2009
- “The Good Beyond Reminiscence: Beginning a Dialogue between Levinas, Augustine, and the Neo-Platonic Tradition,” Conference on Christian Philosophy: The Legacy of Neo-Platonism, Steubenville, OH, April 24-25, 2009
- “The Metaphysics of Duns Scotus and Onto-Theology,” Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Pittsburgh, PA, October 16-18, 2008
- “Ricoeur’s ‘Futureness in the Apprehension of the Historical Past’ in Plato’s *Timaeus*,” Society for Ricoeur Studies, Pittsburgh, PA, October 15, 2008
- “Reexamining the Compatibility of Hildebrand’s Value Ethics and Aristotle’s Eudaimonism,” The Legacy of Dietrich von Hildebrand Conference, Steubenville, OH, October 12-13, 2007
- PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT
- Commentaries Delivered**
- Gina Zavota’s “Plotinus’ ‘Reverse’ Platonism: A Deleuzian Response to the Problem of Emanation,” Ancient Philosophy Society, Lexington, KY, April 9-12, 2015
- Victor Saenz’s “Prudence and Morality in Cicero’s *De Officiis* III.21,” APA Eastern Division Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, December 27-30, 2014
- Gina Zavota’s “Gates of Night and Day,” Lexington Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, Lexington, KY, March 21-22, 2014
- Harold Parker’s “Plato vis-à-vis Prodicus,” Ancient Philosophy Society, Notre Dame, IN, April 4-7, 2013
- James Kintz’s “The Unity of the Knower and the Known: The Phenomenology of Aristotle and the Metaphysics of Husserl,” Ancient Philosophy Society, San Francisco, CA, April 19-22, 2012
- Dennis Skocz’s “A Tale of Two Cities: A Khoral Work in Three Parts,” Ancient Philosophy Society, Sundance, UT, April 13-17, 2011
- Jordan Corwin’s “Dyadism and Triadism in Hegel, Derrida and Marion,” University of Kentucky Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, Lexington, KY, March 26, 2011
- Joshua Anderson’s “Towards an Understanding of Cephalus,” Kentucky Philosophical Association, Crestview Hills, KY, November 20, 2010
- Iddo Landau’s “Meaningfulness, Meaninglessness, and Unmeaningfulness: Did Hitler Have a Meaningful Life?” Central States Philosophical Association, Detroit, MI, September 23-25, 2010
- Andrew Garland’s “Roger Williams and Liberty of Conscience,” University of Kentucky Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, Lexington, KY, March 27, 2010

PROFESSIONAL
ENGAGEMENT
(CONTINUED)

William J. Devlin's "Stepping out of the Shadows: Nietzsche's Critique of the Correspondence Theory of Truth," Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Memphis, TN, March 5-6, 2010

Participation in Seminars, Workshops, and Poster Presentations

The 2021 West Coast Plato Workshop: Plato's *Sophist*, Online, May 14-16, 2021

The 40th Parallel North Winter Seminar on Plato's *Timaeus* and *Sophist*, Online, February – March, 2021

Cameras Optional: A Faculty Panel Discussion Hosted by the CSU Center for Faculty Excellence, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, January 12, 2021

The 40th Parallel North Summer Seminar on Plato's *Laws*, Online, July – August, 2020

American Association of Philosophy Teachers 2020: Anti-Racist and Pandemic Pedagogies, Online, July 22-24, 2020

REMOTE: The Connected Faculty Summit, Arizona State University, Online, July 13-14, 2020

What Do They Do in First Year Writing? Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, February 6, 2020

Classroom Assessment Techniques 2.0, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, January 30, 2020

Understanding the Basic Stresses that International Students Face in US Institutions, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, October 1, 2019

Collaborating with C.A.R.E., Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, September 5, 2019

Poster Presentation on Team-Based Learning in Philosophy Courses, Provost's Teaching Summit, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, April 25, 2019

Documenting Your Teaching and Writing Your Teaching Statement, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, April 11, 2019

Using Copyrighted Materials in the Classroom and Online, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, February 14, 2019

Gateway Course Faculty Learning Community, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, Fall 2018

Lessons Learned about Teaching Workshop, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, September 27, 2018

Matching Teaching Goals with Simple Writing-Intensive Strategies, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, September 14, 2017

14th Toronto Summer Seminar in Philosophy: Plato's *Laws*, Toronto, Ontario, August 9-19, 2017

PROFESSIONAL
ENGAGEMENT
(CONTINUED)

American Association of Philosophy Teachers Workshop on Teaching and Learning in Philosophy with a Special Emphasis on Inclusive Pedagogy, Pittsburgh, PA, February 4, 2017

Small Teaching Book Discussion Workshop, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, Fall Semester, 2016

13th Toronto Summer Seminar in Philosophy: Kant's Practical Philosophy, Toronto, Ontario, May 15-21, 2016

12th Toronto Summer Seminar in Philosophy: Hegel and the System of the Arts, Toronto, Ontario, June 7-14, 2015

11th Toronto Summer Seminar in Philosophy: Plotinus: On What There Is, Toronto, Ontario, June 8-14, 2014

10th Toronto Summer Seminar in Philosophy: Plato's *Republic*, Toronto, Ontario, June 8-17, 2012

8th Toronto Summer Seminar in Philosophy: Fichte's *Foundations of Natural Right*, Toronto, Ontario, June 14-19, 2010

Refereeing

Ancient Philosophy, Fall 2020

American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly, Summer 2017, Summer 2018, Fall 2018, Fall 2020

Ancient Philosophy Today: Dialogoi, Fall 2020

Synthesis Philosophica, Spring 2020

Eirene: Studia Graeca et Latina, Summer 2018

Ohio Philosophical Association Meeting, Spring 2015, Spring 2018

International Journal of the Platonic Tradition, Fall 2017

Journal of Philosophical Research, Fall 2016, Summer 2017

Sophia, Fall 2016

Epoché: A Journal for the History of Philosophy, Spring 2016

British Journal for the History of Philosophy, Summer 2015

Ancient Philosophy Society Annual Conference, Spring 2015

Indiana Philosophical Association Meeting, Spring 2014

COURSES
TAUGHT

Cleveland State University

Prominent Philosophers:

Spinoza and Other Monists FALL 2018

Socrates and Nietzsche FALL 2017

Studies in the History of Philosophy:

Women Philosophers FALL 2020

Late Modern Political Philosophy FALL 2019

Plato's Metaphysics and Politics FALL 2016

Modern Philosophy EVERY SPRING, 2016-2021

Medieval Philosophy EVERY SPRING, 2016-2021

Ancient Philosophy EVERY FALL, 2015-2020

COURSES TAUGHT (CONTINUED)	<i>Morals and Rights</i>	FALL 2015
	<i>Introduction to Philosophy</i>	EVERY FALL & SPRING, 2015-2021
	Independent Studies	
	<i>MacIntyre: Ethics and Epistemology</i>	SPRING 2020
	<i>Temporality in Merleau-Ponty</i>	FALL 2020
	<i>Hegel on the Self</i>	SPRING 2020
	<i>Philosophy and Pop Culture</i>	SPRING 2019
	<i>Philosophy of Religion</i>	FALL 2018
	<i>Existence in Sartre and Merleau-Ponty</i>	FALL 2018
	<i>Sources of the Self</i>	SPRING 2018

Bowling Green State University

Graduate Courses

<i>Seminar in Ancient Philosophy</i>	FALL 2014
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Undergraduate Courses

<i>Modern Philosophy</i>	SPRING 2015
<i>Ancient Philosophy</i>	FALL 2014
<i>History of Ethics</i>	FALL 2014
<i>Epistemology</i>	SPRING 2015
<i>Introduction to Philosophy</i>	SPRING 2015
<i>Introduction to Ethics</i>	SPRING 2015
	FALL 2014

Asbury University

<i>Metaphysics</i>	SPRING 2013
<i>Ancient and Medieval Philosophy</i>	FALL 2012
<i>Introduction to Philosophy</i>	SPRING 2013
	FALL 2012

University of Kentucky

<i>Death, Dying, and Quality of Life</i>	SUMMER 2012
<i>Ancient and Medieval Philosophy</i>	SPRING 2011
<i>Introduction to Ethics</i>	FALL 2011, 2012
<i>Introduction to Philosophy</i>	SPRING 2011, 2013
<i>Introduction to Logic</i>	SUMMER 2011

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	Associate, Diversity Institute, Cleveland State University
	Member, American Association of Philosophy Teachers
	Member, American Catholic Philosophical Association
	Member, American Philosophical Association
	Member, Ancient Philosophy Society
	Member, International Society for Neoplatonic Studies
	Member, Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy
	Member, Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy