

Roger E. Eichorn

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Education

Ph.D. University of Chicago | Chicago, IL | Department of Philosophy August 2019
Dissertation *Philosophy and Everyday Life: Thompson Clarke and the Legacy of Skepticism*
M.A. Stanford University | Stanford, CA | Department of Philosophy January 2010
B.A. University of New Hampshire | Durham, NH | Philosophy & History May 2006

Teaching and Research Interests

Areas of Specialization

- Epistemology, History of Skepticism (ancient and modern, theoretical and practical),
Metaphilosophy

Areas of Competence

- Ancient Greek Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy, Kant, 19th and 20th Century Continental
Philosophy (esp. Hegel, Nietzsche, Heidegger), Wittgenstein

Professional Publications

Articles

- 2021 “Making Sense of Thompson Clarke’s ‘The Legacy of Skepticism,’” *Sképsis* 23: 70–102.
2021 “The Legacy of Thompson Clarke,” *Sképsis* 23: 148–67.
2020 “The Elusive Third Way: The Pyrrhonian Illumination in Wittgenstein’s *On Certainty*,” *Elenchos*
41: 329–62.
2020 “Sextus Empiricus on *Isostheneia* and *Epoché*: A Developmental Model,” *Sképsis* 21: 188–209.
2014 “How (Not) To Read Sextus Empiricus,” *Ancient Philosophy* 34: 121–49.

Book Reviews

- 2021 “Stefan Sienkiewicz, *Five Modes of Scepticism: Sextus Empiricus and the Agrippan Modes*,” in *Ancient
Philosophy* 41: 237–40.
2020 “Richard Bett, *How To Be A Pyrrhonist: The Practice and Significance of Pyrrhonian Skepticism*,” in
Ancient Philosophy 40: 520–24. (This is a revised and expanded version of the review in *Classical
Review*, below.)
2020 “Richard Bett, *How To Be A Pyrrhonist: The Practice and Significance of Pyrrhonian Skepticism*,” in
Classical Review 70: 67–9.
2016 “José R. Maia Neto, *Skepticism in Seventeenth-Century French Philosophy: The Charronian Legacy 1601–
1662*,” in *The British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 24: 174–78.
2015 “Sébastien Charles and Plínio J. Smith (eds.), *Scepticism in the Eighteenth Century: Enlightenment,
Lumières, Aufklärung*,” in *The British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 23: 383–88.

- 2014 “Michelle Zerba, *Doubt and Skepticism In Antiquity and the Renaissance*,” in *The British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 22: 387–89.
- 2014 “Ioannis Trisokkas, *Pyrrhonian Scepticism and Hegel’s Theory of Judgement*,” in *The International Journal for the Study of Skepticism* 4: 68–74.
- 2012 “Jessica N. Berry, *Nietzsche and the Ancient Skeptical Tradition*,” in *The International Journal for the Study of Skepticism* 2: 79–82.

Ongoing and Future Research

Should I find employment in academia that allows time for research, these are the projects I will pursue first:

1. *Philosophy and Everyday Life: Thompson Clarke and the Legacy of Skepticism*
(a revised version of my doctoral dissertation)
2. *Ancient Skepticism’s Modern Legacy*
(argues that numerous modern philosophers are best understood as self-consciously reconfiguring ancient skepticism for their eras: explores this “Pyrrhonian impulse” in Montaigne’s *Essays*, Hume’s *Treatise*, Kant’s first *Critique*, Hegel’s *Phenomenology* and *Encyclopedia Logic*, maybe Kierkegaard in *Philosophical Crumbs* and the *Postscript*, Nietzsche’s corpus, Heidegger’s *Being and Time*, and Wittgenstein’s *On Certainty*)
3. *Nietzsche on Skepticism, Nihilism, and the Affirmation of Life*
(provides a wholistic interpretation of Nietzsche’s philosophy; argues that Pyrrhonism provides a unifying framework for understanding the disparate and seemingly inconsistent features of his work)
4. *Lessons for Living: What Philosophy Has to Teach Us Today*
(a work of ‘popular’ philosophy focused on the practical and theoretical virtues of suspension of judgment on questions of ultimate truth or reality)
5. “Thompson Clarke and the Knowability Requirement”
(explains and defends Clarke’s knowability requirement on concepts against objections presented by Barry Stroud, Keith Lehrer, and others)
6. “Variations on Skepticism”
(argues that later forms of skepticism—specifically Cartesian, Humean, and Wittgensteinian—are best understood as variations on Pyrrhonian equipollence skepticism)
7. “Reality, Relativity, and the Skeptical Modes”
(provides a first in the literature: a coherent, compelling account of the Five Modes as presented by Sextus Empiricus; argues that the Five Modes provide the theoretical core of all the other sets of Modes Sextus presents)
8. “*Hypocimena* and the External World In Sextus Empiricus”
(argues that, in Sextus, *hypocimena* are not, as in the Annas/Barnes translation, “external objects,” where this refers to “medium-sized dry goods”; rather, they are “underlying objects” in the sense of that which underlies appearances while not themselves appearing)

Teaching Experience

Instructor (Official Courses)

- 2017 The Skeptical Tradition In Philosophy (University of Chicago)
- 2015 Nietzsche on Skepticism, Nihilism, and the Affirmation of Life (University of Chicago)

Instructor (Non-Credit Independent Studies)

- 2017 Adorno and Horkheimer's *Dialectic of Enlightenment* (University of Chicago)
2016 Kierkegaard and Skepticism (University of Chicago)
2015 Fogelin's *Pyrrhonian Reflections on Knowledge and Justification* (University of Chicago)
2014–5 Heidegger's *Being and Time* (University of Chicago)
2014 The Origins of Philosophy (University of Chicago)
2014 Skepticism and Phenomenology (University of Chicago)
2013 Socrates, Plato, and Pyrrhonism (University of Chicago)
2013 (with Aaron Segal) Hegel's *Phenomenology of Spirit* (University of Chicago)

Mentor / Adviser

- 2018–9 B.A. Preceptor (University of Chicago)
2015–6 B.A. Preceptor (University of Chicago)
• *Ran a year-long workshop for fourth-year undergraduate philosophy honors students designed to help them develop, write, and complete their senior theses*

Teaching Assistant

- 2016 Introduction to Phenomenology (University of Chicago)
2016 Wonder, Magic, and Skepticism (University of Chicago)
2015 Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations* (University of Chicago)
2014 Introduction to Phenomenology (University of Chicago)
2013 Intensive History of Philosophy: Plato (University of Chicago)
2013 Wonder, Magic, and Skepticism (University of Chicago)
2010 Existentialism (Stanford University)
2009 Introduction to Philosophy (Stanford University)

Selected Presentations

Invited or Refereed Presentations

- 2020 “Thompson Clarke and the Knowability Requirement”
Department of Philosophy, Universidade Federal de São Paulo (UNIFESP)
2015 “The Structure of Agrippan Skepticism”
Northern New England Philosophical Association Conference, Bates College
2014 “Frontiers of the Mind: Is the Mind ‘Nothing But’ the Brain?” (*group presentation/discussion*)
The Civic Knowledge Project, Graham School, University of Chicago
2013 “Wittgenstein on Skepticism, Dogmatism, and Seeing the World Aright”
University of New Hampshire, Department of Philosophy
2013 “Pyrrhonism, Agnosticism, and Faith: A Plea for Epistemic Fideism”
Northern New England Philosophical Association Conference, Dartmouth College
2012 “Sextus Empiricus On the Pyrrhonian Third Way”
University of New Hampshire, Department of Philosophy

Institutional Presentations

- 2015 “A Heideggerian Pyrrhonism?”
The Contemporary European Philosophy Workshop, University of Chicago
2013 “How to Write An Effective Philosophy Paper”
University of Chicago, Department of Philosophy
2013 “The Entwinement of Skepticism and Philosophy”

- The Wittgenstein Workshop at the University of Chicago
- 2013 “Righting the Inverted World: Skepticism and the Appearance–Reality Distinction In Montaigne”
The Early Modern Philosophy Workshop at the University of Chicago
- 2012 “The Elusive Third Way: The Pyrrhonian Illumination In Wittgenstein’s *On Certainty*”
The Wittgenstein Workshop at the University of Chicago
- 2009 “How to Write An Effective Philosophy Paper”
Stanford University, Department of Philosophy
- 2008 “The Pyrrhonian Circular Dialectic”
The Graduate Student Workshop, Stanford University, Department of Philosophy
- 2005 “Tolstoy’s Critique of History and Freewill”
The Socratic Society, University of New Hampshire, Department of Philosophy

Service

Referee: Elenchos, History of Philosophy & Logical Analysis, Springer, Loire Valley Institute for Advanced Studies