

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION AND CLASSICS • UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
ROCHESTER, NY 14627-0074
MOBILE PHONE (585) 615-7939 § FAX (585) 276-1230
EMAIL EDWARD.WIERENGA@ROCHESTER.EDU

EDWARD WIERENGA

EDUCATION

1971-74: University of Massachusetts Amherst, M.A., Ph.D. in philosophy
1969-71: Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, Ph.D. program in philosophy
1965-69: Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan, A.B. in philosophy

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2017- Professor of Religion and of Philosophy Emeritus, University of Rochester

1994-2017 Professor of Religion and of Philosophy (2004-2017), Department of Religion and Classics, University of Rochester; chair, 1991-1997, 2003-2014.

1983-94 Associate Professor of Religion, University of Rochester.

1977-83 Assistant Professor of Religion, University of Rochester.

Courses taught: Philosophy of Religion; Topics in Philosophical Theology; Ethical and Legal Decisions in Medicine; Augustine, Anselm, and Aquinas; Religion and Ethics; Body, Mind, and Death; Knowledge, Truth, and Religious Belief; Religion and Film; Religion and Rationality; Graduate Seminars: Metaphysical Problems--Free Will and Determinism; Topics in the Philosophy of Religion; Medieval Philosophy; Modal Metaphysics

1978-83 Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy of Religion (Fall 1978, Spring 1981, Fall 1983) Colgate Rochester Divinity School/Bexley Hall/Crozer Theological Seminary.

1975-77 Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

1974-75 Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois.

BOOKS

The Nature of God: An Inquiry into Divine Attributes (Cornell University Press, 1989); paper (Cornell University Press, 2003); Italian translation, *La Natura di Dio: Un'indagine sugli attributi divini* (Perugia: Graphe.it Edizioni, 2006).

The Philosophy of Religion (First Books in Philosophy) (Wiley-Blackwell, 2016).

CO-EDITED BOOK

James R. Van Tholen, *Where All Hope Lies: Sermons for the Liturgical Year*, eds. Susan

Dykstra-Poel, Eileen VanderZwan, Edward Wierenga, Joseph Wright (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2003).

ARTICLES

“Middle Knowledge and Evil,” in *The History of Evil from the Mid-Twentieth Century to Today: 1950 to 2018 CE*, Yehuda Gellman, ed., Vol. VI of *The History of Evil*, Chad Meister and Charles Taliaferro, eds. (London: Acumen, 2018): 93-103.

"Omnipresence", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Summer 2019 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), forthcoming URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2019/entries/omnipresence/>. (Latest revision of a substantial revision in 2015 of original 2005 entry)

"Omniscience", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2017 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2017/entries/omniscience/> (Substantive revision in 2017 of 2010 version)

“Cartesian and Neo-Cartesian Arguments for Dualism,” *Mind and Body in Comparative Theology: Proceedings of the International Conference of Religious Doctrines and the Mind-Body Problem*, Qom: Academy of Islamic Sciences and Culture (2015): 213-240.

“The Ontological Argument and Objects of Thought,” *Philosophic Exchange* 42:1 (2011): 83-97. Available at: http://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/phil_ex/vol42/iss1/1.

“Tilting at Molinism,” in Ken Perszyk, ed., *Molinism: The Contemporary Debate* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011): 118-139.

“Augustinian Perfect Being Theology and the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 69 (2011): 139-151.

“Omniscience,” *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2013 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2013/entries/omniscience/>.

“Omniscience,” *Oxford Handbook of Philosophical Theology*, Thomas Flint and Michael Rea, eds. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009): 129-144.

“Perfect Goodness and Divine Freedom,” *Philosophical Books* 48 (2007): 207-216.

“Omnipresence,” *The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Religion*, Paul Copan and Chad Meister, eds. (London and New York: Routledge, 2007).

“Omnipresence,” *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Fall 2005 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2005/entries/omnipresence/>.

“Trinity and Polytheism,” *Faith and Philosophy* 21 (2004): 281-294.

“Omniscience and Time, One More Time: A Reply to Craig,” *Faith and Philosophy* 21 (2004): 90-97.

- “The Freedom of God,” *Faith and Philosophy* 19 (2002): 425-436.
- “Providence, Middle Knowledge, and the Grounding Objection,” *Philosophia Christi* 3 (2001): 447-457.
- “Timelessness out of Mind: On the Alleged Incoherence of Divine Timelessness,” Greg Ganssle and David Woodruff, eds., *God and Time* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001): 153-164.
- “The No Grounds Objection,” in William Hasker, David Basinger, and Eef Dekker, eds., *Middle Knowledge: Theory and Applications* (Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2000): 58-65.
- “Theism and Counterpossibles,” *Philosophical Studies* 89 (1998): 87-103.
- “Omnipresence,” in Philip L. Quinn and Charles Taliaferro, eds., *A Companion to the Philosophy of Religion* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1996), 286-290; revised in Charles Taliaferro, Paul Draper, and Philip L. Quinn, eds., *A Companion to the Philosophy of Religion* (second edition) (Oxford: Blackwell, 2010): 258-262.
- “Philosophy of Religion in the Twentieth Century,” in J. Canfield, ed., *Philosophy of the English Speaking World: Meaning, Knowledge and Value*, Routledge History of Philosophy, Vol. 10 (Routledge, 1996); paperback (2003). Farsi translation published as “Falsafeh-ye din dar qarn-e bistom,” *Ketab-e mah-e din*, no. 33 (July 2000): 44-52.
- “Creation *ex nihilo*,” “Disembodiment,” “Divine Attributes,” “Divine Foreknowledge,” entries in Robert Audi, ed., *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995). Reprinted (with revisions) as well as “Paradox of Omniscience,” in Robert Audi, ed., *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy* 2nd ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999).
- “Omnipotence,” in Dane R. Gordon, ed., *Thinking and Reading in the Philosophy of Religion* (New York: Haven Publications, 1994), 212-219; reprinted from *The Nature of God*.
- “Prophecy, Foreknowledge, and the Necessity of the Past,” in James Tomberlin, ed., *Philosophical Perspectives*, 5, *Philosophy of Religion* (Atascadero, CA: Ridgeview Press, 1991): 425-445.
- “Omniscience and Knowledge *De Se et De Praesenti*,” in David Austin, ed., *Philosophical Analysis: A Defense by Example* (Dordrecht: D. Reidel, 1988): 251-258.
- “Anselm on Omnipresence,” *The New Scholasticism* 52 (1988): 30-41.
- “Utilitarianism and the Divine Command Theory,” *American Philosophical Quarterly* 21 (1984): 311-318.
- “Proxy Consent and Counterfactual Wishes,” *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 8 (1983): 363-375.

- “A Defensible Divine Command Theory,” *Noûs* 17 (1983): 387-407.
- “Omnipotence Defined,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 43 (1983): 363-375.
- “Identity Conditions and Events” (with Richard H. Feldman), *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 11 (1981): 77-93.
- “Fodor on Davidson on Action Sentences,” *Synthese* 44 (1980): 347-359.
- “Thalberg on the Irreducibility of Events” (with Richard H. Feldman), *Analysis* 39 (1979): 11-16.
- “Intrinsic Maxima and Omnibenevolence,” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 10 (1979): 40-49.
- “Reply to Harold Moore's 'Evidence, Evil and Religious Belief',” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 9 (1978): 246-251.
- “Taking Someone's Word for It,” *Philosophical Studies* 34 (1978): 203-205.
- “Chisholm on States of Affairs,” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 54 (1976): 148-152.
- “Eliminative Materialism and Denotation: A Reply to Rosenbaum” (with Rew A. Godow, Jr.), *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 36 (1976): 398-402.

REVIEWS

- “Review of *The Fall and Hypertime* by Hud Hudson,” *Faith and Philosophy* 34:3 (2017): 370-377.
- “Review of *Alvin Plantinga*, ed., Dean-Peter Baker,” *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, 2009.10.09. <<http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=17766>>
- “Review of *Divine Providence* by Thomas Flint,” *Philosophia Christi* 3 (2001): 262-265.
- “Review of *Ontological Arguments* by Graham Poppy,” *Review of Metaphysics* 52 (1998): 163-164).
- “Review of *The Openness of God* by Clark Pinnock *et al.*,” *Faith and Philosophy* 14 (1997): 248-252.
- “Review of *Confrontations with the Reaper* by Fred Feldman,” *Teaching Philosophy* 17 (1994): 78-81.
- “Review of *Christian Theism and the Problems of Philosophy* by Michael Beatty,” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 34 (1993): 115-116.
- “Review of *New Perspectives on Old-Time Religion* by George Schlesinger,” *The Philosophical Review* 10 (1992): 449-452.

- “Review of *Faith after Foundationalism* by D. Z. Phillips,” *Religious Studies Review*, 17 (1991): 141, 143
- “Review of *Alvin Plantinga*, ed. by James Tomberlin and Peter van Inwagen,” *Faith and Philosophy* 5 (1988): 214-219.
- “Review of *Divine Omniscience and Human Freedom* by John C. Moskop,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 54 (1986): 601-602.
- “Review of *Portraying Analogy* by James F. Ross,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 46 (1986): 692-696.
- “Review of *Logic and the Nature of God* by Stephen Davis,” *Faith and Philosophy* 3 (1986): 88-91.
- “Life after Death?” review of *Eternal Life?* by Hans Küng, *The Reformed Journal* 34 (August 1984): 25-27.
- “Proving Survival?” review of *Life after Life* and *Reflections on Life after Life* by Raymond A. Moody, Jr., *The Reformed Journal* (September 1978): 26-29.

PAPERS READ

- “Defeat, Proper Function, and the Evolutionary Argument against Naturalism,” New Insights and Directions in Religious Epistemology Workshop, Oxford University, March 18, 2014.
- “The Ontological Argument and Objects of Thought,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Chicago, February 17, 2012; Center for Philosophic Exchange, State University of New York, College at Brockport, February 23, 2012; State University of New York, College at Potsdam, April 26, 2012.
- “Cartesian and Neo-Cartesian Arguments for Dualism,” The International Conference of Religious Doctrines and the Mind-Body Problem, Center for Islamic Philosophy and Theology, Academy of Islamic Sciences and Culture, Qom, Iran, March 9, 2011.
- “Plantinga’s ‘Defeat’,” Baylor University Philosophy of Religion Conference, Waco, Texas, January 29, 2011.
- “Augustinian Perfect Being Theology,” The Concept of God and the Cognitive Science of Religion Conference, University of Birmingham, England, June 15, 2009
- “How Skeptical Is Skeptical Theism?,” International Conference on Philosophy of Religion: Eastern and Western Perspectives, Hong Kong, February 4, 2009.
- “Tilting at Molinism,” Molinism Workshop, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, June 12, 2008; Formal Methods in the Epistemology of Religion, University of Leuven, Belgium, June 12, 2009; University of Arkansas, November 19, 2010 .

- “Author Meets Critics: William Rowe, *Can God Be Free?*,” American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Washington, D.C., December 27, 2006.
- “Hume’s Objections to Miracles,” SUNY Geneseo, February 13, 2004, SUNY Fredonia, April 21, 2005, University of Arkansas, November 19, 2010.
- “Comments on ‘The Paradox of Inquiry in Augustine’s *Confessions*’ by Scott MacDonald,” Gareth Matthews Conference, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, May 7, 2005.
- “Comments on ‘Freedom with a Human Face’ by Timothy O’Connor,” Wheaton College Philosophy Conference, Divine and Human Freedom, October 29, 2004.
- “Comments on ‘Material Constitution and the Trinity’ by Michael Rea and Jeffrey Brower,” Symposium Session, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Washington, D.C., Dec. 30, 2003.
- “Trinity and Polytheism,” Eastern Regional Society of Christian Philosophers Meeting, Rochester, NY, March 1, 2001; University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, October 13, 2001; Calvin College, February 13, 2002; Kenneth Konyndyk Memorial Lecture, Society of Christian Philosophers, Central Division of the American Philosophical Association, Chicago, April 25, 2002.
- “Providence, Middle Knowledge, and the Grounding Objection,” Wheaton College Philosophy Conference, October 27, 2000.
- “Timelessness out of Mind: On the Alleged Incoherence of Divine Timelessness,” Western Regional Meeting of the SCP, Portland, Oregon, April 9, 1999; SUNY New Palz, Spring 2000; University of Rochester, Spring 2000.
- “The ‘Openness’ of God,” Society of Christian Philosophers, Central Division of the American Philosophical Association, Chicago, April 27, 1995.
- “Why Omniscience Is Not Dispositional: A Reply to Hunt,” Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, San Francisco, April 1, 1995.
- “God’s Essential Perfections and Philosophical Logic,” symposium paper, Central Division of the American Philosophical Association, Louisville, Kentucky, April 24, 1992.
- “Ockhamism and Prophecy,” The Creighton Club (The New York State Philosophical Association), Geneva, NY, November 8, 1991.
- “Prophecy, Freedom, and the Necessity of the Past,” University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, November 17, 1991.
- “The Paradox of the Stone and Its Solution,” Symposium on Philosophy of Religion, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, January 30, 1991.
- “Comments on ‘Pascal’s Wager and the Many Gods Objection’ by Jeff Jordan,” Central

Division of the American Philosophical Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, April, 1990.

“Eternity, Timelessness, and Immutability,” Society of Christian Philosophers, University of Southern California, February 3, 1989.

“Theodicy and Blame: A Reply to Adams,” The Creighton Club (The New York State Philosophical Association), Skaneateles, NY, April 22, 1988.

“Omniscience and Knowledge *De Se et De Praesenti*,” Central Division of the American Philosophical Association, Chicago, Illinois, May 1, 1987.

“Omniscience and Indexicality,” Syracuse University, April 18, 1986; invited lecture at NEH Summer Institute in Philosophy of Religion, Bellingham, Washington, July 8, 1986; University of Notre Dame, February 27, 1987.

“Aquinas and Calvin on *Akasia* in Romans: A Reply to Kretzmann,” Research Conference on Philosophy and the Christian Faith, University of Notre Dame, February 22, 1986.

“Comments on 'Divine Eternity and Omniscience: A Defense of Boethius from the Special Theory of Relativity' by Alan Padgett,” American Academy of Religion, Anaheim, California, November 25, 1985.

“Anselm on Omnipresence,” American Academy of Religion, Anaheim, California, November 25, 1985; Conference on God and Contemporary Philosophy, Rochester Institute of Technology, April 12, 1986.

“Comments on 'Direct Justification and Theistic Belief' by Robert Audi,” Research Conference in the Philosophy of Religion, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, April 13, 1984.

“Utilitarianism and the Divine Command Theory,” Western Division of the American Philosophical Association, Chicago, Illinois, April, 1983.

“Comments on 'On Ockham's Way Out' by Alvin Plantinga,” William Harry Jellema Memorial Conference, Grand Rapids, Michigan, October, 1982.

“Omnipotence Defined,” Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 29, 1981.

“A Defensible Divine Command Theory” (*Novus* version), University of Illinois-Chicago Circle, September 24, 1980; University of Vermont, October 3, 1980; University of Rochester, November 7, 1980.

“Historical Events: Can the Analytical Philosopher Be of Help?” Twelfth Fall Meeting, Conference on Faith and History, North Park College, Chicago, Illinois, September 25, 1980.

“A Defensible Divine Command Theory” (short version), Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association, Washington, D.C., December 27, 1978.

“The Divine Command Theory of Ethics,” Franklin and Marshall College, February 11, 1978.

“Some Difficulties with Chisholm's Theory of States of Affairs,” Arizona State University, May 9, 1977.

“Comments on 'Ontological Simplicity and the Problem of Universals' by Alfred J. Freddoso,” Calvin-Notre Dame Philosophy Conference, University of Notre Dame, May 6, 1977.

“Comments on 'Evidence, Evil and Religious Belief' by Harold F. Moore,” Western Division of the American Philosophical Association, April 29, 1977.

“Comments on 'God Theory' by John F. Post,” Calvin-Notre Dame Philosophy Conference, Calvin College, April 21, 1976.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Seminar, Brown University, 1977, "Faith, Meaning and Religious Knowledge," James F. Ross, Director.

University of Rochester Faculty Summer Film Grant (NEH), 1979.

Mellon Theories of Religion Faculty Seminar, Hobart and William Smith Colleges-University of Rochester, 1979-80.

National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Seminar, Brown University, 1981, "The Self in Recent Philosophy," Roderick M. Chisholm, Director.

Mellon Faculty Fellowship (one-semester research leave), University of Rochester, 1984.

Invited Lecturer and Participant, National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute in Philosophy of Religion, Bellingham, WA, 1986.

Distinguished Scholar Fellowship, Center for Philosophy of Religion, University of Notre Dame, 1986-87.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association

Creighton Club (New York State Philosophical Association)

Society of Christian Philosophers; Member of Executive Committee, 1989-91, 2005-2008

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Editor, Philosophy of Religion, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (2001-2016).

Member, Board of Editorial Consultants, *Faith and Philosophy* (second term ended 2018).

Member, Editorial Board, *Religious Studies*.

Member, Board of International Consultants, *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion*.

Referee for *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Faith and Philosophy*, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *Mind*, *Noûs*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Religious Studies*, *Sophia*.

Reader for Cornell University Press, Georgetown University Press, M.I.T. Press, Oxford University Press, Wadsworth Publishing Company.

(revised April 2019)