

# Alexandra D. Benitez

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## Education

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**University of Miami**, College of Arts and Sciences

*Master of Arts in Philosophy, May 2025*

Dissertation Title: *Privilege, Knowledge, and Obligations: A Discussion on Epistemic Responsibility*

Supervisor: Otávio Bueno

Committee: Aleksandra Hernandez, Clinton Castro

**Florida International University**, College of Arts, Sciences, & Education

*Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, May 2023*

Capstone Project Title: *The Threads that Divide Us: Uniforms as Enabling Sex Segregation in Sports*

## Certifications

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- Law, Ethics and Society
  - Achieved by completing a course of studies in the broad field of normative ethics and value issues.
- Ethics, Big Data, and Artificial Intelligence
  - Achieved by completing courses that lay the foundations needed to understand the ethical significance of these technologies.
- FIU's Emotional Intelligence Badge
  - Bestowed upon completion of first semester with the AVD Fellowship; interpersonal communication skills and conflict navigation were core foci.

## Honors and Distinctions

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- FIU Dean's List
  - Spring 2022
  - Fall 2022
  - Spring 2023

## Memberships

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- Fellowships
  - **Bridging the Divide: Religious Leadership and Literacy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Arthur Vining Davis Foundation Fellowship** **2022- 2023**  
*Inaugural Fellow*

Participated with undergraduate and graduate students at FIU to be part of an interdisciplinary leadership initiative that included intense engagement with communities of faith. My contribution was grounded in the importance of dialogue, disagreement, belief, and epistemic authority. Particularly, the relationship between social media and these concepts in online circles, where self-proclaimed religious actors position themselves to create echo chambers that distort the role of faith and religious texts in these communities.

- Honor Societies
  - **Phi Sigma Tau** **2022- (Present)**  
*Student*

Attended talks and other events meant to educate and professionalize through a community of present philosophy students, alumni, and faculty.

- Clubs
  - **FIU Philosophy Club** **2022- 2023**

*Student Member*

Met with members of the philosophy department, its officers, and fellow students to converse about varying topics in philosophy and how they affect us presently.

- Volunteer Work
  - **Mentor Collective** **2020- 2023**  
*Mentor*

Assisted incoming FIU students with transitioning to college life by empowering them to face their difficulties and extending resources provided by the university.

- Additional Memberships
  - **FIU Pre-Law Program** **2020- 2022**  
*Student Member*

Participated in graduate-level law classes utilizing Socratic methods of discussion and engaged with opportunities for professionalization in the legal field.

### **Relevant Experience**

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#### **Adjunct Lecturer at Florida International University**

**August 2025- (Present)**

*Instructor for Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics*

My priority in this role is creating a safe and inclusive environment for students with varying aptitudes in writing, presentation, and philosophical understanding. It also involves the responsibility of giving insightful lectures, facilitating open discussions, and encouraging students to develop their critical thinking skills. Further, providing timely assistance and feedback to all students, along with additional resources to enable their fullest possible development. Additionally, it required the documentation of student participation, attendance, and academic standing in the course. The goal that guided these courses was to encourage students to express themselves and view their interests within a larger context of inquiry.

#### **Academic Advisor at Florida International University**

**September 2023- May 2024**

*CASE Advisor Level I for Interdisciplinary Studies, Psychology & Early Childhood Education*

I helped students find courses, provided information about university policies and procedures, and redirected them as needed. Frequently, I lead orientations that introduce a wide range of students to the school and their respective programs. My central role was creating detailed accounts of my meetings with students, along with reviewing their cases in an effort to highlight their strengths and the areas requiring improvement to position them as strong candidates for their career of interest. I also tailored alternative and parallel plans for them to pursue, encouraging them to develop transferable skills that could go beyond their classes and into professional settings.

#### **Tutor at Florida International University**

**September 2022- May 2023**

*Peer Tutor for Introduction to Philosophy & Ethics*

Aided students enrolled in introductory philosophy and ethics courses in the pursuit of understanding, engaging with, and applying philosophical concepts to their assignments. Tutoring sessions included supplying students with essay writing tips, stronger critical thinking skills, and most importantly, confidence in their ability to succeed.

#### **Pre-Law Liaison at Florida International University**

**September 2022- May 2023**

*Philosophy Student Ambassador*

Initiated a role that reported to and provided materials from law school events to the department. Completed data entry and researched opportunities for philosophy students interested in attending law school in the future.

## **Presentations**

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### **2025 Florida Philosophical Association Conference**

**January 31<sup>st</sup> -February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

*Flagler College, St. Augustine, Florida*

Hume famously dealt with the repercussions of going against the church through his writings, sacrificing reputation and career at the altar of what he took to be integrity in the pursuit of truth. Similarly, those who align themselves with feminism are deprived of their ability to feel likeable, relevant, and understood. This paper aimed to interrupt the harms enabled by a global patriarchal culture. In my feminist reimagination of his arguments, I engaged with Sections VI and VII, focusing on discussions of custom and cause and effect.

### **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Quest for Peace Panel Discussion**

**November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

*Miami Dade College, Kendall, Florida*

The Quest for Peace panel discussion is meant to promote the pursuit of peace through mutually respectful intellectual dialogue. I provided my case for the impact of a shifting American epistemic hegemony, where the focus of my concern was about our unwillingness to meaningfully engage with evidence and how it will come to erode alliances, destroy our soft power, and create a reputation for instability.

### **2024 Florida Philosophical Association Conference**

**February 9<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

*St. Petersburg College Downtown Center, St. Petersburg, Florida*

I was granted the opportunity to showcase *Mi Gente: An Epistemic Observation of Cuban Americans and their Voting Habits*. My paper listed firsthand observations of both good and poor epistemic habits practiced by the Cuban American community. I argued for possible ameliorations that would reduce political and epistemic hostilities, while highlighting tools that help us maintain a sense of identity within the United States' fight for truth and clarity. My goal was to encourage younger generations to break free of the deception of party loyalty, reverse and prevent the effects of inflammatory content, and to reflect on themselves so that they may become competent interpreters of the world.