

CURRICULUM VITAE

Brandon Smith

McGill University

Department of Philosophy

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Education

2018-Current: Doctor of Philosophy, Philosophy, McGill University

Dissertation - *Spinozistic Eudaimonism: The Intellectual and Physical Unity and Plurality of Happiness*

Supervisors: Carlos Fraenkel, Hasana Sharp

2016-2018: Master of Arts, Philosophy, Carleton University

Thesis - *The Un-Stoic Spinoza: An Analysis of Spinoza, Aristotle, and Epicurus's Accounts of Pleasure*

Supervisors: Annie Larivée, Melissa Frankel

2012-2016: Bachelor of Arts Honours, English and Philosophy, Carleton University

Dean's List (2012-2016)

Passed with High Distinction

Areas of Specialization

Spinoza

17th Century Philosophy

Philosophy of Happiness

Areas of Competence

Ancient Greek Philosophy

The Meaning of Life

Ethics

Philosophy of Mind

Languages

English (fluent)

French (research)

Latin (research)

Awards/Grants

Guy Desautels Memorial Prize, McGill University, 2022

Awarded by the Department of Philosophy to a graduate student who has done outstanding work in the history of philosophy.

Senate Medal for Outstanding Academic Achievement, Carleton University, 2018

Awarded with Master of Arts in Philosophy

Senate Medal for Outstanding Academic Achievement, Carleton University, 2016

Awarded with Bachelor of Arts Honours in English and Philosophy

FASS Summer Undergraduate Research Internship, Carleton University (\$6000 CAD), 2016

Project: Aristotle and Spinoza's Views on Pleasure

Publications

Journal Articles

“Spinoza’s Strong Eudaimonism,” *Journal of Modern Philosophy*. (Forthcoming)

“Spinoza’s Metaethical Synthesis of Nature and Affect.” *Ithaque*, no. 30, 2022, pp. 89-112.
Handle: <http://hdl.handle.net/1866/26672>.

Popular Philosophy

“How Important is Philosophy to Happiness? Weak vs. Strong Eudaimonism,” *TheCollector*. (Forthcoming).

Works-in-Progress

“Weak Democritean Eudaimonism,” *Arché*. (Under review).

“Consequence, Duty, and Character: An Exploration of Traditional Ethical Paradigms in the Ethics,” *Undercurrent Philosophy*. (Under review).

“Epicurus and Spinoza on Pleasure: Living a Natural, Healthy, and Happy Life”

“Spinoza’s Early Modern Eudaimonism: The Savior of Corporeal and Intellectual Being”

“The Intellectual Ascent of Love in Plato and Spinoza: Does the Body Matter to the Wise?”

Conferences

Peer Reviewed

"Spinoza and Epicurus on Pleasure: Healthy and Happy Natural Being," The Traveling Early Modern Philosophy Organization, Online, May 2022.

“The Un-Stoic Spinoza: Spinoza vs. the Stoics on the Passions,” Symposium “The Passions in Early Modern Rationalism,” Canadian Philosophical Association, University of Alberta, June 2021.

“Consequence, Duty, and Character: Traditional Ethical Paradigms in the Ethics,” Symposium “Spinoza Today,” Dominican University College, December 2017.

Invited Presentations

“Spinoza’s Strong Eudaimonism.” Work in Progress Seminar Series, McGill University, February 2023.

“Healthy and Happy Natural Being: Spinoza and Epicurus Contra the Stoics,” McGill Philosophy Association, McGill University, April 2022.

"Aristotle and Spinoza's Views on Pleasure," FASS Summer Undergraduate Research Award Event, Carleton University, September 2016.

“Spinoza: Theist or Atheist?,” Carleton University Philosophy Society, Carleton University, September 2016.

“Spinoza on Love,” Carleton University Philosophy Society, Carleton University, Ottawa, February 2016.

Teaching Experience

Instructor

PHIL360: 17th Century Philosophy

Fall 2021, McGill University

Recognized under the Thank a Prof Initiative

Philosophy as Happiness: Spinoza’s Path to a Self-Empowered Life

Enrichment Mini-Courses Program (EMCP), Summer 2018, Carleton University

The Pursuit of Happiness: An Introduction to the Good Life in Ancient Greek Philosophy

Enrichment Mini-Courses Program (EMCP) Summer 2017, Carleton University (Co-Taught with Courtney Crump)

Guest Lecturer

“Aristotle on Friendship: NE VIII”

PHIL 454: Ancient Moral Theory, Fall 2022: McGill University

“Spinoza’s Necessitarianism”

PHIL 360: 17th Century Philosophy, Fall 2022, McGill University

Graduate Mentor

Directed Reading Program, Winter 2023, McGill University

Mentee # 1: Eudaimonism

Mentee # 2: God, the soul, and happiness in the Stoics, Epicurus, and Spinoza

Mentee # 3: Spinoza's engagement with Ancient Greek Philosophy

Teaching Assistant

PHIL237: Contemporary Moral Issues

Winter 2023, McGill University

PHIL306: Philosophy of Mind

Fall 2022, McGill University

PHIL201: Introduction to Philosophy 2

Winter 2019/2020/2022, McGill University

PHIL200: Introduction to Philosophy 1

Fall 2020, McGill University

PHIL454: Ancient Moral Theory

Fall 2019 and Winter 2021, McGill University

PHIL1200A – The Meaning of Life

Winter 2018, Carleton University

PHIL1000A – Introductory Philosophy: Fields, Figures, and Problems

Fall 2017, Carleton University

PHIL2005A – Greek Philosophy and the Western Tradition

Fall 2016-Winter 2017, Carleton University

Academic Service

Moderator

Spinoza Research Network Facebook Group, September 2022-Current

Administrators: Beth Lord and Jon Rubin

Copyeditor

Journal of Spinoza Studies, 28 September-2 November 2022

Reviewer

Undercurrent Philosophy, January 2019-2022

Membership

North American Spinoza Society (NASS)

References

Carlos Fraenkel

Professor & James McGill Professor, Department of Philosophy & Department of Jewish Studies, McGill University. (Dissertation Supervisor, Teaching Mentor)

Email: carlos.fraenkel@mcgill.ca

Hasana Sharp

Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, McGill University. (Dissertation Supervisor).

Email: hasana.sharp@mcgill.ca

Annie Larivée

Associate Professor & Departmental Chair, Department of Philosophy, Carleton University. (MA Thesis Supervisor).

Email: annie.larivee@carleton.ca

Melissa Frankel

Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, Carleton University. (MA Thesis Supervisor).

Email: melissa.frankel@carleton.ca