

Timothy Yenter, Ph.D.

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### **Areas of Research and Teaching Specialization**

AOS: 17th and 18th Century European Philosophy, Philosophy of Film and Media Studies

AOC: Aesthetics, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Religion, Ethics

### **Appointments**

#### *Current*

Associate Dean for Capstone, Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, The University of Mississippi, 2022

Associate Professor of Philosophy, The University of Mississippi, 2018 – Present

Affiliated Faculty, Cinema, The University of Mississippi, Fall, 2013 – Present

#### *Previous*

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, The University of Mississippi, 2012 – 2018

Director of the Interdisciplinary Minor in Cinema, The University of Mississippi, 2019 – 2021

Interim Director of the Interdisciplinary Minor in Cinema, The University of Mississippi, 2017

Teaching Fellow, Graduate Teaching Center, Yale University, 2010 – 2012

Beinecke Dissertation Research Fellow, Beinecke Library, Yale University, Spring, 2010

Instructor, Yale University, 2008

Instructor, Bethel University, 2005 – 2006

Adjunct Instructor, Montana State University – Bozeman, 2004

### **Journal Articles and Book Chapters**

1. "Suffering for Justice in Anne Conway and Maria W. Stewart," *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*, forthcoming. (9,087 words)
2. "The Metaphysical Implications of Newtonianism," *Oxford History of Scottish Philosophy in the Eighteenth Century, Volume II: Method, Mind, and Matter*, eds. Aaron Garrett & James Harris, forthcoming. (20,550 words)

3. "Mary Astell on Neighborly Love," *Religions* 13(6), 2022. <https://www.mdpi.com/2077-1444/13/6/475> (9,001 words)
4. "Historical Knowledge as Self-Understanding in the Films of Whit Stillman," *Film and Philosophy* 26, 2022. <https://www.pdcnet.org/collection-anonymous/browse?fp=filmphil&fq=filmphil/Volume/8974%7C26/> (6,984 words)
5. "What Hume Didn't Notice about Divine Causation," *Divine Causation: Essays in Philosophical Theology*, ed. Greg Ganssle, Routledge University Press, 2021. <https://www.routledge.com/Philosophical-Essays-on-Divine-Causation/Ganssle/p/book/9780367334697> (7,664 words)
6. "Harmony in Spinoza and His Critics," *Spinoza's Philosophy of Ratio*, ed. Beth Lord. Edinburgh University Press, 2018. ISBN: 9781474420433 <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/spinozas-philosophy-of-ratio-9781474420433?cc=ca&lang=en&> (9,335 words)
7. "Cinephilia and Philosophia: Or Why I Don't Show *The Matrix* in Philosophy 101," *For the Love of Cinema: Teaching Our Passion in and outside the Classroom*, ed. Rashna Richards and David T. Johnson. Indiana University Press, 2017. ISBN: 9780253029959 [http://www.iupress.indiana.edu/product\\_info.php?products\\_id=808871](http://www.iupress.indiana.edu/product_info.php?products_id=808871) (9,511 words)
8. "Buster Keaton and the Puzzle of Love." *Faith and Spirituality in Masters of World Cinema, Volume 3*. Eds. Kenneth R. Morefield and Nicholas Olson. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015. ISBN: 978-1443871167. <https://books.google.com/books?id=VvqmBgAAQBAJ> (5,601 words)
9. "Clarke Against Spinoza on the Manifest Diversity of the World," *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, 2014. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09608788.2014.900606#.VB-SKedfkml> (10,060 words)

## In Progress

"Appreciating Audiobooks" [under review]

"When Did Philosophy Begin? The British Debate, 1620-1770" [draft]

"Why Think the Arc of the Universe Bends Toward Justice?" [draft]

"Self-Motion and Attraction in Émilie du Châtelet and Andrew Baxter" [draft]

"Three Reasons We Know Nothing (According to Hume)" [draft]

"Hume's Adequate Idea Criterion and Precise Standard Criterion" [draft]

## Encyclopedia Entries

1. "Samuel Clarke," *Encyclopedia of Early Modern Philosophy and the Sciences*, eds. Dana Jalobeanu and Charles T. Wolfe. Springer, 2022. ISBN: 9783319310671.  
[https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007%2F978-3-319-20791-9\\_465-1](https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007%2F978-3-319-20791-9_465-1)  
(1,774 words)
2. "Anne Conway," *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy and Religion*, eds. Stewart Goetz and Charles Taliaffero. Wiley-Blackwell, 2021. (1,075 words)
3. "Samuel Clarke," *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy and Religion*, eds. Stewart Goetz and Charles Taliaffero. Wiley-Blackwell, 2021. (1,087 words)
4. "Samuel Clarke," *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, ed. Uri Nodelman (Co-authored with Ezio Vailati). 2018. [Substantial revisions: 2009, 2014, 2018]  
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/clarke/> (13,982 words)

## Book Reviews

1. "D. N. Rodowick, *Philosophy's Artful Conversation*," *Teaching Philosophy*. December, 2016.  
[https://www.pdcnet.org/pdc/bvdb.nsf/purchase?openform&fp=teachphil&id=teachphil\\_2016\\_0039\\_0004\\_0565\\_0567](https://www.pdcnet.org/pdc/bvdb.nsf/purchase?openform&fp=teachphil&id=teachphil_2016_0039_0004_0565_0567) (1220 words)
2. "Jamie C. Kassler, *Seeking Truth: Roger North's Notes on Newton and Correspondence with Samuel Clarke c.1704-1713*," *Isis* 106(4). December, 2015.  
<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/toc/isis/2015/106/4> (780 words)
3. "Peter R. Anstey (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of British Philosophy in the Seventeenth Century*," *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*. July, 2014.  
<http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/49002/> (4400 words)

## Presentations

1. "Gender and Religion in the Aesthetic Judgments of Elizabeth Montagu and David Hume," Hume Society, APA Eastern; January, 2023 [invited]
2. "Suffering for Justice in Anne Conway and Maria W. Stewart," Early Modern Social Justice, University of Memphis; April, 2022.
3. "Mary Astell on the Metaphysics of Love," Friends of Mary Astell, APA Eastern; January, 2020 [invited]
4. "Self-Motion and Attraction in Émilie du Châtelet and Andrew Baxter," Symposium on Émilie du Châtelet, APA Pacific; April, 2019 [invited]

5. "Levels of Love: Norris, Astell, Masham, and King on the Possibility of Loving Thy Neighbor," Symposium on Early Modern Women and Martin Luther King, Jr., Society for the Study of Early Modern Women, APA Central; February, 2019 [invited]
6. "When Did Philosophy Begin? The British Debate from Bacon to Smith," Mississippi Philosophical Association, Mississippi State University; February, 2019
7. "Ether/Orb: Scottish Newtonians on Causes and Gravity," South Central Society for Early Modern Philosophy, Hendrix College; November, 2017
8. "Historical Understanding as Self-Understanding," Of Love & Friendship: The Films of Whit Stillman, Gonzaga University; October, 2017
9. "Direct and Indirect Routes from Locke to Hume," Hume Society, APA Pacific; April, 2017 [invited]
10. "Ether/Orb: Scottish Newtonians on Causes and Gravity," Science in the Scottish Enlightenment, CSSP, Princeton Theological Seminary; March, 2017
11. "'Beca the Badass': Crafting a Star Image by Posing Community on Anna Kendrick's Instagram," Console-ing Passions, Notre Dame; June 2016 [co-authored with Elizabeth Picciuto]
12. "Harmony in Spinoza and His Critics," Mississippi State University; April, 2016 [invited]
13. "Harmony in Spinoza and His Critics," Spinoza and Proportion Conference (AHRC Equalities of Wellbeing project), University of Aberdeen; May, 2015
14. "Living the Good Life by Watching Movies," Philosophical Fridays, University of Southern Mississippi; April, 2015 [invited]
15. "Hume's Criteria for Successful Demonstrations," Midwest Society for Early Modern Philosophy, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee; September, 2014
16. "Hume's Adequacy Criterion for Successful Demonstrations," 41<sup>st</sup> International Hume Conference, Portland State University; July, 2014
17. "The Adequacy Criterion, Infinite Ideas, and Hume's Theory of Space," New York City Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, Fordham University; March, 2014
18. "Hume's Argument for Why the Causal Maxim Is Not Certain," Margaret Dauler Wilson Biennial Philosophy Conference, Dartmouth College; June, 2012
19. "Is Team Loyalty a Virtue?," A Mirror of Our Culture: Sport and Society in America, St. Norbert College; April, 2010
20. "Clarke Against Spinoza on the Manifest Diversity of the World," Midwest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Marquette University; November, 2008

## Awards, Grants, and Special Appointments

1. Howell Family Outstanding Teacher of the Year, College of Liberal Arts, The University of Mississippi, 2022
2. Sabbatical Leave, The University of Mississippi, 2018
3. Course Development Stipend, Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, The University of Mississippi, 2018 (\$5000)
4. Intensive Seminar on Teaching New Narratives in Early Modern Philosophy, Simon Fraser University, 2018
5. Faculty Travel Grant, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, The University of Mississippi, 2017 (\$700)
6. Faculty Travel Grant, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, The University of Mississippi, 2017 (\$500)
7. Summer Research Grant, College of Liberal Arts, The University of Mississippi, 2016 (\$7500)
8. Summer Research Grant, College of Liberal Arts, The University of Mississippi, 2015 (\$7500)
9. Course Development Stipend, Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, The University of Mississippi, 2014 (co-recipient) (\$4000)
10. Stipend to Replace Textbooks with Open Educational Resources, College of Liberal Arts, The University of Mississippi, 2014 (\$1500)
11. Summer Research Grant, College of Liberal Arts, The University of Mississippi, 2013 (\$6500)

## Education

Ph.D. in Philosophy, 2012, Yale University

Dissertation: "David Hume's Account of Demonstration in Book I of *A Treatise of Human Nature*"

B.A. in Philosophy, History, 2001, Bethel University (MN), *summa cum laude*, Honors Program

Non-Degree Work, 1999, Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Oxford University

## Thesis Supervision and Committee Membership

M.A. Thesis Supervision

1. S. S., "Absurdity as an Everyday Aesthetic," 2021

2. T. D., "The Aesthetics of Repair: The Way of Zen and Appreciation," 2021
3. D. H., "The Temporal *Conatus* and the Problem of Motion from Eternity," 2019
4. R.T., "A Song of Confusion and Annoyance: Kant on the Beauty of Absolute Music," 2018
5. R.M., "The Logical Analysis of Key Arguments in Leibniz and Kant," 2016
6. S.H., "Berkeley on the Source of Self-Knowledge," 2016
7. L.C., "Ugly Things and Ugly Problems in Kant's Third Critique," 2015

#### B.A. Honors Thesis Supervision

1. A. M., "Raising the Student Activity Fee," 2022
2. K. Y., "Firsthand Experience in a Community Pharmacy through the Lens of a Pharmacy Technician," 2022
3. T. D., "Film Festivals and the COVID-19 Pandemic," 2021
4. C.C., "The Metaphysics of Transubstantiation: The Problem of Individuation in Seventeenth Century Philosophy," 2017
5. T.M., "The Other Face of Catherine Trotter Cockburn," 2016

#### Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member

1. N. D., University of Mississippi English Department, radio, in progress
2. J. C., University of Mississippi History Department, "Geneva: From Republic to Canton," in progress
3. A.B., University of Mississippi English Department, "The Odor of Reality: U.S. Realism and the Aesthetics of Disgust, 1860-1910," in progress
4. C.B., University of Mississippi English Department, "Nature's Converts: Reading the Land and Nature in the Early American Conversion Narrative, 1727-1831," 2021

#### M.A. Thesis Committee Member

1. A. K., "A Refutation of Republican Freedom," 2022
2. J. C., "The Truth Value of Sentences with Legal Names," 2022
3. M. R., "Karaites, Reformers, New Critics, and Textualists: Four Failed Cases of Coherent Interpretation," 2022

4. B. T., "From Goethe to Gödel: Against the Language of Thought Hypothesis," 2021
5. M. V., "Reclaiming Apologetics as Serious Scholarship: A Methodology for an Open-Ended Exploration of Christian Inclusivism," 2021
6. M.G., "Clown Consciousness: No Funny Business," 2017
7. T. J., "Persistent Problems in Modified Divine Command Theory," 2017
8. T.W., "PTSD and Emotionally Augmented Perception," 2016
9. S.W., "A Non-Classical Solution to Vague Endurance," 2016
10. K.G., "Is the God of Christian Theology Apathetic?," 2015
11. S.J., "The Ontological Question of Lockean Persons," 2014
12. M.M., "Laughing Matters," 2013
13. M.K., "An Examination of Wanting in Anscombe's *Intention*," 2013
14. C.H., "The Need for Natural Theology in the Life of the Theist," 2013

#### B.A. Honors Thesis Committee Member

1. H. P., "Meet Me Halfway," screenwriting, 2022
2. T. C., "Strategic Planning with Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship at the University of Mississippi," strategic planning, 2022
3. T. F., "Gemini Chaos," screenwriting, 2020
4. R. E., "You Were There," short film, 2020
5. C.C., "On Vulnerability," philosophy, 2018

#### Service to Discipline [selected]

Contributor, *The Mod Squad* blog, 2012 – Present

Videos for Wi-Phi (now hosted at Khan Academy) on the cosmological argument, 2013

Journal Referee: *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Celebrity Studies*, *Film and Philosophy*, *History of Philosophy Quarterly*, *Journal of Modern Philosophy*, *Mind*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*, *Teaching Philosophy*

Book Proposal Commentary (Academic Presses): Broadview, Hackett, Routledge (Taylor & Francis)

Book Manuscript Commentary (Academic Presses): Oxford University Press

## Presentation Commentary

1. Noël Carroll's "Fictional Characters as Social Metaphors," Occasioning Philosophy Conference; April, 2016
2. Emily Kelahan's "Hume's Former Opinions," Midsouth Philosophy Conference; March, 2013
3. Jeffrey McDonough's "Leibniz and the Puzzle of Incompossibility," Society for Early Modern Philosophy at Yale; October, 2009
4. Jani Hakkarainen's "Hume's Scepticism and Realism," Society for Early Modern Philosophy at Yale; October, 2008

## Service to University [selected]

Organizer, Free Film Friday series, 2020

Academic Freedom and Responsibility Standing Committee, The University of Mississippi, 2018 — Present

Instructional Technology Standing Committee, The University of Mississippi, 2017 — Present

Competition Committee, Film Essay Competition, The University of Mississippi, 2014 – Present

Session Leader, "How to Watch Movies," SMBHC Welcome Week, 2015, 2017, 2019

## Service to Department [selected]

Assessment Coordinator, 2019 – Present

Library Liaison, 2019 – Present

Graduate Development Coordinator, 2015 – 2019

Search Committee, Bryant Professor of Ethics, 2015 — 2016

Faculty Advisor, Phi Sigma Tau, 2012 – Present

Faculty Advisor, Philosophy Club, 2012 – 2015

## Service to Community [selected]

Philosophy for Kids, First Regional Library, Oxford-Lafayette Branch, 2018

Screening Committee, Oxford Film Festival, 2013



## Teaching Experience

*Graduate Courses: The University of Mississippi*

PHIL 602: Studies in Modern Philosophy (4x)

PHIL 607: Major Western Philosophers: Modern and Contemporary

PHIL 607: Major Western Philosophers: Hume

PHIL 611: Problems of Metaphysics: Metaphysics of Space

PHIL 614: Kant (2x)

PHIL 620: Problems of Aesthetics (3x)

PHIL 622: Studies in Early Modern Philosophy: The Scottish Enlightenment

PHIL 680: Studies in Feminist Philosophy: Early English Feminism

*Undergraduate Courses: The University of Mississippi*

PHIL 101: Introduction to Philosophy (19x)

PHIL 302: History of Philosophy II (6x)

PHIL 314: Kant and the Problems of Philosophy (x2)

PHIL 316: Philosophy in American History

PHIL 355: Philosophy of Film (4x)

PHIL 320: Aesthetics

PHIL 402: Seminar in History of Modern Philosophy: Hume's Essays

PHIL 402: Seminar in History of Modern Philosophy: Early Modern Monism

HON 101/102: First-Year Seminar in Liberal Arts (5x)

CINE 399: New York City in Film (co-taught)

independent studies in philosophy of film, the metaphysics of space, Catherine Trotter Cockburn, and the Norris-Astell correspondence

*Undergraduate Courses: Yale University, Bethel University, and Montana State University – Bozeman*

PHIL S114: Free Will, God, and Evil

PHI 320: Ethics: Theory and Practice

PHI 105: The Philosophic Quest (2x)

PHI 212: The American Mind (2x)

PHI 330: Great Philosophers: Frege, Russell, Quine

PHI 321: Ethical Decisions

PHI 421: Applying Ethics to Organizations (3x)

PHIL 105: Problems of Good and Evil

CLS 101: College Seminar (2x)

*New Courses Designed:*

Studies in Modern Philosophy (graduate), Philosophy in American History (300-level), Philosophy of Race (300-level), Kant and the Problems of Philosophy (300-level), Philosophy of Film (300-level), New York City in Film (300-level), Ultimate Questions (200-level), Introduction to Cinema (200-level)

**Professional Associations**

The American Philosophical Association, 2005 – Present

The Hume Society, 2009 – Present

Society for the Philosophic Study of the Contemporary Visual Arts, 2011 – Present

**References**

Michael Della Rocca, Andrew Downey Orrick Professor of Philosophy, Yale University

Greg Ganssle, Professor of Philosophy, Talbot School of Theology, Biola University

Aaron Garrett, Professor of Philosophy, Boston University

Don Garrett, Silver Professor of Philosophy, New York University

Sarah Moses, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, The University of Mississippi

Steven Skultety, Chair of Philosophy and Religion, Professor of Philosophy, The University of Mississippi

Kenneth Winkler, Professor of Philosophy, Yale University