

Michael Wiitala

Curriculum Vitae, August 2023

Cleveland State University
Department of Philosophy & Comparative Religion
2121 Euclid Avenue, RT 1344
Cleveland, OH 44115-2214

Email: mwiitala@gmail.com
m.wiitala@csuohio.edu

Phone: 734-972-6136

- SPECIALIZATION** Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy, Plato, Neo-Platonism
- COMPETENCE** History of Philosophy, Medieval Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy, 19th Century Philosophy, Phenomenology, Philosophy of Religion
- LANGUAGES** Ancient Greek, Latin
- EMPLOYMENT** Associate College Lecturer of Philosophy, Cleveland State University, 2022–present
Assistant College Lecturer of Philosophy, Cleveland State University, 2016–2022
Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Cleveland State University, 2015–2016
Instructor of Philosophy (full-time), Bowling Green State University, 2014–2015
Adjunct Instructor of Philosophy, Asbury University, 2012–2013
Graduate Instructor in Philosophy, University of Kentucky, 2009–2013
- EDUCATION** Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Kentucky, August, 2014
Dissertation: *Truth and Falsehood in Plato's Sophist*; Eric Sanday, chair
M.A., Philosophy, Franciscan University of Steubenville, December, 2008
B.Ph., Philosophy, Ave Maria College, December, 2005
- PUBLICATIONS** **Edited Volume**
Boethius's Consolation of Philosophy: A Critical Guide (Cambridge University Press, under contract)
- Published and Forthcoming Essays**
"Parts of Difference in Plato's *Sophist*, with Help from *Republic V*," in *Plato's Sophist: Selected Papers of the Thirteenth Symposium Platonicum*, ed. Edward Halper, Luc Brisson, Richard Parry (Nomos Press, forthcoming)
"Being and Existence in the *Consolation of Philosophy*," in *Boethius's Consolation of Philosophy: A Critical Guide* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming)
"Dionysius the Areopagite on Whether Philosophy Should be Used in Service of Religion," *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association*, forthcoming
"That Difference is Different from Being: *Sophist* 255c9-e2," *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy* 62, 2022, 85-103
"Causes in Plato's *Phaedo*," *Plato Journal* 23, 2022, 37-50
"The *Koinônia* of Non-Being and *Logos* in the *Sophist* Account of Falsehood," *Areté: Revista de filosofia* 34, 2022, 235-249

PUBLICATIONS
(CONTINUED)

"Every Happy Man is a God: Boethius on Deification," in *Deification in the Latin Patristic Tradition*, ed. Jared Ortiz (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2019), 231-252

"Searching for the 'Why': Plotinus on Being and the One beyond Being," in *A Companion to Ancient Philosophy*, ed. Sean D. Kirkland and Eric Sanday (Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2018), 275-285

with Paul DiRado, "In What Sense Does the One Exist? Existence and *Hypostasis* in Plotinus," in *Platonic Pathways: Selected Papers from the Fourteenth Annual Conference of the International Society for Neoplatonic Studies*, ed. John F. Finamore and Danielle A. Layne (Gloucestershire, UK: The Prometheus Trust, 2018), 77-92

"The Argument against the Friends of the Forms Revisited: *Sophist* 248a4-249d5," *Apeiron* 51.2, 2018, 171-200

"Non-Being and the Structure of Privative Forms in Plato's *Sophist*," *Epoché: A Journal for the History of Philosophy* 19.2, 2015, 279-288

"The Forms in the *Euthyphro* and *Statesman*: A Case against the Developmental Reading of Plato's Dialogues," *International Philosophical Quarterly* 54.4, 2014, 393-410

"Desire and the Good in Plotinus," *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 21.4, 2013, 649-666

"Anselm's Ontological Argument and Aristotle's *Elegktikōs Apodeixai*," *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 86, 2012, 129-140

"It Depends on What One Means by 'Eternal': Why Boethius is not an Eternalist," *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 84, 2010, 253-261

"Negating the Image: The Apophatic Character of Philosophical *Logos* in Plato's *Phaedrus*," *Kinesis: Graduate Journal in Philosophy* 37.1, 2010, 56-65

"Contemplation and Action within the Context of the *Kalon*: A Reading of the *Nicomachean Ethics*," *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 83, 2009, 173-182

"The Metaphysics of Duns Scotus and Onto-Theology," *Philosophy Today* 53, Supplement, 2009, 158-163

Book Review

Plato: A Guide for the Perplexed, Gerald A. Press (New York: Continuum, 2007), *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 83.4, 2009, 630-634

INVITED
PRESENTATIONS

"Greek Philosophy and Christian Religion in Dionysius the Areopagite," Dionysius Circle, Online Event, October 18, 2022

"Harmony and the Being, Same, and Different from which Soul is Assembled in *Timaeus* 35a1-36b6," 2022 University of Kentucky *Timaeus* Symposium, Lexington, KY, May 19, 2022

"Expertise as Proof of Platonic Forms," Tri-C Philosophy Club, Cuyahoga Community College, Cleveland, OH, April 28, 2021

- INVITED PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)
- “Space and the Lesser Gods in Plato’s *Timaeus*,” Online *Timaeus* Workshop, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, May 21, 2020
- “Platonic Causes in *Phaedo* 96a-102d,” University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN, November 10, 2017
- “Measure, Soul, and the Three Polities in *Laws* V,” Toronto Summer Seminar in Philosophy: Plato’s *Laws*, Toronto, Ontario, August 9-19, 2017
- “Forms as Norms in the *Phaedo*,” University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, January 27, 2017
- “Interpreting Anselm’s Ontological Argument,” Indiana University – Purdue University Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne, IN, March 31, 2015
- “Plotinus on the Will of the One: *Ennead* VI.8.7-13,” Toronto Summer Seminar in Philosophy: Plotinus on What There Is, Toronto, Ontario, June 9-14, 2014
- REFEREED PRESENTATIONS
- “Diotima and Aspasia: The Philosopher Appearing as Sophist and Stateswoman,” Ancient Philosophy Society, Spokane, WA, April 19-22, 2023
- “The Appearance of Women Philosophers in Plato’s Dialogues: Diotima and Aspasia,” Philosophical Club of Cleveland, Cleveland, OH, December 13, 2022
- “The Being of Non-Being: *Sophist* 258a11-c5,” Symposium Platonicum XIII, Athens, GA, July 18-22, 2022
- “Dionysius the Areopagite on Whether Philosophy Should be Used in Service of Religion,” American Catholic Philosophical Association, St. Louis, MO, November 18-21, 2021
- “The Nature, *Ousia*, and Form of Non-Being: *Sophist* 258a11-e2,” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Online, November 12, 2021
- “*Exsistere* in *Consolation of Philosophy* 3.10: To Exist or to Appear?” Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy Inaugural Conference, Notre Dame, IN, October 4-6, 2021
- “*Noein* and *Einai* in Fragment 3 of Parmenides’ Poem,” Eleatica XII, Ascea, Italy, September 26-29, 2021
- “The *Koinônia* of Non-Being and *Logos* in the *Sophist* Account of Falsehood,” International Plato Society Mid-Term Meeting, Pontifical University of Peru, Lima, Peru, July 12-22, 2021
- “Parts of Difference in Plato’s *Sophist*,” Ancient Philosophy Society, Online Conference, June 10-12, 2021
- “The Identity of *Noein* and *Einai* in the Poem of Parmenides,” Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, April 22-24, 2021
- “Negative Forms and Parts of Difference in Plato’s *Sophist*,” Ohio Philosophical Association, Akron, OH, April 17, 2021
- “Three Referents of ‘Non-Being’ in the *Sophist*: The Nature of Non-Being, the Form Non-Being, and Things that Are Not,” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Newport News, VA, November 16-17, 2019

- REFEREED PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)
- “Intelligence as a Cause in the *Phaedo*,” America Philosophical Association, Central Division, Denver, CO, February 20-23, 2019
- “Intelligence as a Cause: *Phaedo* 96a-99c,” Central States Philosophical Association, Buffalo, NY, October 26-27, 2018
- “Being as *Dunamis* and Being an Entity: *Sophist* 247d8-e4,” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Newport News, VA, October 20-21, 2018
- “Every Happy Man is a God: *Consolation of Philosophy* III.10.1-25,” International Society for Neoplatonic Studies, Los Angeles, CA, June 13-16, 2018
- “Searching for the ‘Why’: Plotinus on the One beyond Being,” America Philosophical Association, Central Division, Chicago, IL, February 21-24, 2018
- “Forms and Causality in the *Phaedo*,” Ohio Philosophical Association, Ada, OH, April 8, 2017
- “Forms, Causes, and Why-Questions in the *Phaedo*,” Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy with the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science, New York, NY, October 28-30, 2016
- with Paul DiRado, “In What Sense Does the One Exist? Existence and *Hypostasis* in Plotinus,” International Society for Neoplatonic Studies, Seattle, WA, June 15-18, 2016
- “Forms in Motion: The Argument against the Friends of the Forms in Plato’s *Sophist*,” Ancient Philosophy Society, Portland, ME, April 28-May 1, 2016
- “*Kineisthai* and the Forms in *Sophist* 248b2-249d5,” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy at the America Philosophical Association Pacific Division, San Francisco, CA, March 30-April 3, 2016
- “Self-Moving Motion and the Motion of Forms: *Laws* X and *Sophist* 248b2-249d5,” West Coast Plato Workshop, Tucson, AZ, May 2-3, 2015
- “The Motion of Forms: *Sophist* 248b2-249d5,” Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy with the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science, New York, NY, October 24-26, 2014
- “Non-Being and the Structure of Privative Forms in Plato’s *Sophist*,” Ancient Philosophy Society, Tampa, FL, April 24-27, 2014
- “Normativity and Being in *Sophist* 255e3-256d10,” Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy with the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science, New York, NY, October 11-13, 2013
- “The Forms and Explanatory Priority in Plato’s *Euthyphro*,” Northwest Philosophy Conference, Forest Grove, OR, October 4-5, 2013
- “Plato’s *Statesman* on the Goal of Philosophical Inquiry,” Kentucky Philosophical Association, Lexington, KY, March 23, 2013
- “Anselm’s Ontological Argument and Aristotle’s *Elegktikōs Apodeixai*,” American Catholic Philosophical Association, Los Angeles, CA, November 2-4, 2012

- REFEREED PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)
- “The Five Greatest Kinds as Preconditions for Any True *Logos*,” Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy with the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science, New York, NY, October 19-21, 2012
- “The Ability to Divide *Kat’ Eidē: Statesman* 285d-287a and the Value of the Method of Division,” Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy with the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science, New York, NY, October 21-23, 2011
- “The Tripartite Soul and the Precise Sense of Ruling in Plato’s *Republic*,” Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium, Washington, PA, September 10, 2011
- “Self-Knowledge and Nietzsche on the Problem of Socrates,” Kentucky Philosophical Association, Crestview Hills, KY, November 20, 2010
- “It Depends on What One Means by ‘Eternal’: Why Boethius is not an Eternalist,” American Catholic Philosophical Association, Baltimore, MD, November 5-7, 2010
- “Negating the Image: The Apophatic Character of Philosophical *Logos* in Plato’s *Phaedrus*,” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Memphis, TN, March 5-6, 2010
- “Contemplation and Action within the Context of the *Kalon*: A Reading of the *Nicomachean Ethics*,” American Catholic Philosophical Association, New Orleans, LA, November 13-15, 2009
- “The Good Beyond Reminiscence: Beginning a Dialogue between Levinas, Augustine, and the Neo-Platonic Tradition,” Conference on Christian Philosophy: The Legacy of Neo-Platonism, Steubenville, OH, April 24-25, 2009
- “The Metaphysics of Duns Scotus and Onto-Theology,” Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Pittsburgh, PA, October 16-18, 2008
- “Ricoeur’s ‘Futureness in the Apprehension of the Historical Past’ in Plato’s *Timaeus*,” Society for Ricoeur Studies, Pittsburgh, PA, October 15, 2008
- “Reexamining the Compatibility of Hildebrand’s Value Ethics and Aristotle’s Eudaimonism,” The Legacy of Dietrich von Hildebrand Conference, Steubenville, OH, October 12-13, 2007
- HONORS AND AWARDS
- Diversity Teaching, Research, and Action (TRACTION) Grant to Redesign PHL 262: Medieval Philosophy, Diversity Institute, Cleveland State University, 2021
- 2018-2020 Teaching Enhancement Award for Redesigning Introduction to Philosophy, Center for Faculty Excellence, Cleveland State University
- Golden Apple Teaching Award, Cleveland State University Young Alumni Council, 2018
- International Society for Neo-Platonic Studies Travel Grant, 2016
- Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of Kentucky, 2013–2014
- University of Kentucky Philosophy Department Annual Essay Prize, 2013
 “Plato’s *Sophist* on Non-being and Negatively Defined Forms”
- Daniel R. Reedy Quality Achievement Award, University of Kentucky, 2009–2012
- Ave Maria College Award for Excellence in Philosophy, 2006

PROFESSIONAL
ENGAGEMENT**Commentaries Delivered**

Jacob Hollis' "*Lethargus and the Neoplatonist Beginnings of Boethius' Consolation*," Ohio Philosophical Association, Wooster, OH, April 29, 2023

Gina Zavota's "Plotinus' 'Reverse' Platonism: A Deleuzian Response to the Problem of Emanation," Ancient Philosophy Society, Lexington, KY, April 9-12, 2015

Victor Saenz's "Prudence and Morality in Cicero's *De Officiis* III.21," APA Eastern Division Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, December 27-30, 2014

Gina Zavota's "Gates of Night and Day," Lexington Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, Lexington, KY, March 21-22, 2014

Harold Parker's "Plato vis-à-vis Prodicus," Ancient Philosophy Society, Notre Dame, IN, April 4-7, 2013

James Kintz's "The Unity of the Knower and the Known: The Phenomenology of Aristotle and the Metaphysics of Husserl," Ancient Philosophy Society, San Francisco, CA, April 19-22, 2012

Dennis Skocz's "A Tale of Two Cities: A Khoral Work in Three Parts," Ancient Philosophy Society, Sundance, UT, April 13-17, 2011

Jordan Corwin's "Dyadism and Triadism in Hegel, Derrida and Marion," University of Kentucky Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, Lexington, KY, March 26, 2011

Joshua Anderson's "Towards an Understanding of Cephalus," Kentucky Philosophical Association, Crestview Hills, KY, November 20, 2010

Iddo Landau's "Meaningfulness, Meaninglessness, and Unmeaningfulness: Did Hitler Have a Meaningful Life?" Central States Philosophical Association, Detroit, MI, September 23-25, 2010

Andrew Garland's "Roger Williams and Liberty of Conscience," University of Kentucky Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, Lexington, KY, March 27, 2010

William J. Devlin's "Stepping out of the Shadows: Nietzsche's Critique of the Correspondence Theory of Truth," Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Memphis, TN, March 5-6, 2010

RECENT COURSES
TAUGHT

Cleveland State University

Prominent Philosophers:

Parmenides and Plato FALL 2021

Spinoza and Other Monists FALL 2018

Socrates and Nietzsche FALL 2017

Studies in the History of Philosophy:

Hegel's Political Philosophy FALL 2022

Women Philosophers FALL 2020

Late Modern Political Philosophy FALL 2019

Modern Philosophy EVERY SPRING, 2016-2023

Medieval Philosophy EVERY SPRING, 2016-2023

Ancient Philosophy EVERY FALL, 2015-2022

Introduction to Philosophy EVERY FALL & SPRING, 2015-2023

RECENT COURSES TAUGHT (CONTINUED)	Independent Studies <i>Nietzsche</i> <i>The Structure of Scientific Revolutions</i> <i>Philosophy of Religion: Al-Ghazali</i> <i>Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit</i> <i>French Existentialism</i> <i>MacIntyre: Ethics and Epistemology</i> <i>Temporality in Merleau-Ponty</i> <i>Hegel on the Self</i> <i>Philosophy and Pop Culture</i> <i>Philosophy of Religion: Prayer</i> <i>Existence in Sartre and Merleau-Ponty</i> <i>Sources of the Self</i>	SPRING 2023 FALL 2022 SPRING 2022 SPRING 2022 FALL 2021 SPRING 2021 FALL 2020 SPRING 2020 SPRING 2019 FALL 2018 FALL 2018 SPRING 2018
MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	Associate, Diversity Institute, Cleveland State University Member, American Association of Philosophy Teachers Member, American Catholic Philosophical Association Member, American Philosophical Association Member, Ancient Philosophy Society Member, International Society for Neoplatonic Studies Member, Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy Member, Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy	