

# Micah Edvenson

PhD Student in Philosophy · Florida State University

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## EDUCATION

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| PhD Program in Philosophy, Florida State University                              | 2026–present |
| M.A. in Philosophy, University of Florida                                        | 2026         |
| B.A. in Philosophy, minor in History ( <i>cum laude</i> ), University of Florida | 2023         |

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Philosophy of Biology · Philosophy of Language · Cognitive Science · Metaphilosophy · History of Analytic Philosophy

## FURTHER AREAS OF COMPETENCY

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Metaphysics · Applied Ethics · Philosophy of Mind

## PUBLICATIONS

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### *Journal Articles*

1. (2026) "The near miss modal ontological argument for atheism" (with Gene Witmer). *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Gene Witmer                                            | Fall 2025–Spring 2026 |
| University Scholars Program Undergraduate Research Grant: Bioethics with Dr. Molly Gardner | Fall 2022–Spring 2023 |

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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*As Teaching Assistant (grading, holding office hours, leading weekly breakout sessions):*

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| PHI 1322: The Idea of Happiness (Quest)<br>Instructor: Nathan Rothschild | Fall 2024       |
| PHI 3641: Ethics and Innovation (AI Course)<br>Instructor: James Simpson | Spring 2025     |
| PHI 1001: Conflict of Ideas (Quest)<br>Instructor: Rodrigo Borges        | Summer (B) 2025 |
| PHI 2010: Intro to Philosophy<br>Instructor: Andrew Lichter              | Fall 2026       |

## ADVANCED COURSEWORK

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### *Undergraduate Seminars*

A Priori Knowledge (Gene Witmer)  
Aristotle's Ethics (Jennifer Rothschild)  
Wittgenstein (Chris Dorst)  
Philosophy of Mind (Lyndal Grant)  
Philosophy of Language (Bob Beddor)

### *Graduate Seminars/Independent Research*

Epistemology: The Gettier Problem (Rodrigo Borges)  
Wittgenstein on Thought (Chris Dorst)  
Philosophy of Mind: Nativism and Empiricism in AI (Cameron Buckner)  
Philosophy of Language (Greg Ray)  
Philosophy of Mind: Intentional Action (Alfred Mele)  
The Ethics of Risk (Michael Bukoski)

## AWARDS & GRANTS

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|                                                              |                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Herbert and Lucyle T. Werkmeister Scholarship Endowment Fund | 2026–2027             |
| University Scholars Program Research Grant                   | Fall 2022–Spring 2023 |
| Langadas Scholarship, Center for Greek Studies               | Spring 2023           |
| Dean's List, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences            | Spring 2022           |
| Dean's List, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences            | Fall 2023             |

## PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCE PAPERS

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| "Revisiting Hume on Ideas and Cognition"<br>Western Michigan Graduate Conference                                    | Spring 2026 |
| "A Dream of our Language: Wittgenstein on Thought"<br>UF–FSU Graduate Conference                                    | Spring 2026 |
| "The Near Miss Modal Ontological Argument for Atheism" (with Gene Witmer)<br>Society for the Philosophy of Religion | Spring 2026 |
| "The Near Miss Modal Ontological Argument for Atheism"<br>Florida Philosophical Association                         | 2026        |
| "Harm and Benefit in the De-extinction Debate"<br>Undergraduate Research Symposium                                  | 2023        |
| "Some Puzzles about Preemptive Harming"<br>Undergraduate Philosophy Conference                                      | Spring 2022 |
| "Darwin and the Manifest Image"<br>Undergraduate Philosophy Society                                                 | Fall 2021   |

## SERVICE

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| Paper reviewer for Free Will Conference at FSU                  | Fall 2026             |
| Co-organizer, Southeastern Graduate Philosophy Conference at UF | Spring 2026           |
| Vice President, Graduate Student Philosophy Society             | Fall 2025–Spring 2026 |
| Co-organizer, Southeastern Graduate Philosophy Conference at UF | Spring 2025           |
| Secretary, Graduate Student Philosophy Society                  | Fall 2024–Spring 2025 |

## LANGUAGES

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**Natural:** English (native), Ancient Greek (Beginner)

**Artificial:** R (Beginner)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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Member of the American Philosophical Association

Member of the Society for Philosophy of Religion

## PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

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I host a YouTube channel featuring interviews with professional philosophers and lecture materials. Past guests include Jody Azzouni, Graham Oppy, Michael Huemer, Dustin Crummett, Eric Steinhart, and more.

[youtube.com/@medvenson](https://youtube.com/@medvenson)

## REFERENCES

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|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Gene Witmer</b>  | Associate Professor & Department Chair, Philosophy,<br>University of Florida     | <a href="mailto:gwitmer@ufl.edu">gwitmer@ufl.edu</a> |
| <b>Chris Dorst</b>  | Associate Professor & Graduate Coordinator, Philosophy,<br>University of Florida | <a href="mailto:cdorst@ufl.edu">cdorst@ufl.edu</a>   |
| <b>Greg Ray</b>     | Professor, Philosophy, University of Florida                                     | <a href="mailto:gregray@ufl.edu">gregray@ufl.edu</a> |
| <b>Florin Curta</b> | Professor, History & Medieval Archaeology, University of<br>Florida              | <a href="mailto:fcurta@ufl.edu">fcurta@ufl.edu</a>   |