

## SEAN M. COSTELLO

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AOS: Early Modern; Ancient  
AOC: Medieval; Mind; Metaphysics

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U.S. Citizen

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### EDUCATION

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#### University of Michigan

##### *PhD in Philosophy*

**Dissertation:** Early Modern Dualisms and Unities of Consciousness

**Chair:** Tad Schmaltz

**Committee:** Sonya Özbey, Marleen Rozemond (Toronto), Janum Sethi, Jamie Tappenden

Ann Arbor, MI, USA

*In progress from 2020*

##### *MA in Philosophy*

Winter 2024

##### *Cognitive Science Graduate Certificate*

August 2022

#### University of Oxford, Hertford College

##### *MSt in Ancient Philosophy (Distinction)*

Hertford College Senior Scholar (2019 – 2021)

**Thesis:** *An Ecological Approach to Aristotle's Theories of Light and Vision*

**Supervisor:** Anna Marmodoro

Oxford, UK

October 2017 – July 2020

(due to medical leave)

#### University of Notre Dame

##### *Bachelor of Arts (Summa cum laude)*

**Majors:** Honours Philosophy; International Economics

Notre Dame, IN, USA

August 2013 – May 2016

#### Brown University

##### *First Year of Studies*

Providence, RI, USA

August 2012 – May 2013

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### PUBLICATIONS

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#### *Early Modern Publications:*

- [1] 'Anne Conway on memory'. *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 31.5 (2023), pp. 912–931. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/09608788.2023.2164920>. (Approximately 9,500 words.)

#### *Ancient Publications:*

- [3] 'Nocturnal Vision in Plato's *Timaeus*'. *Ancient Philosophy* 44.1 (2024), pp. 59–81. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5840/ancientphil20244414>. (Approximately 12,800 words.)
- [2] 'Aristotle on Light and Vision: An "Ecological" Interpretation'. *Apeiron* 55.2 (2022), pp. 247–279. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1515/apeiron-2019-0063>. (Approximately 16,000 words.)
- [1] 'The Object of Aristotle's God's Νόησις in *Metaphysics* Λ.9', *The Journal of Greco-Roman Studies* 57.3 (2018), pp. 49–66. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23933/jgrs.2019.57.3.49>. (Approximately 6,500 words.)

## AWARDS AND HONOURS

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- Rackham Dissertation Fellowship (x2)**, University of Michigan, Winter 2024 and Fall 2024 (\$13,770 USD per term plus all university fees and a teaching release. Awarded by the Rackham Graduate School.)
- Hertford Senior Scholarship**, Hertford College, University of Oxford, 2019 – 2021 (£5,000 GBP plus accommodation rights, dining rights, and Associate Membership of the Senior Common Room. Awarded for an outstanding record of academic achievement. Selected out of 80 postgraduate applicants from across all Colleges and degree-subjects at Oxford. Typically awarded to a final-year doctoral student.)
- Blackwell's Scholarship**, University of Oxford, 2017 – 2018 (£1,200 GBP awarded for academic excellence.)
- Thomas J. McMahon IV Endowment for Excellence for the Pursuit of Scholarship**, University of Oxford, 2017 – 2020 (£11,366 GBP awarded for postgraduate study.)
- Dockweiler Medal in Philosophy**, University of Notre Dame, 2016 (Medal awarded for best essay on a philosophical topic.)
- Phi Beta Kappa**, University of Notre Dame 2016 (Elite academic honour society for the top 10% of graduates in the liberal arts and sciences.)

## SELECTED PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- [9] ‘Descartes on the Indivisible Mind and the Unity of Consciousness’, to be presented at the York University Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, York University, Toronto, Canada, 12 June 2025.
- [8] ‘Henry More on the Extended Mind’, presented at the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association, New York City, USA, 10 January 2025.
- [7] ‘Émilie Du Châtelet on Love’, presented at the Women, Dignity, and Reason in the Early Modern Period (1600–1800) Conference, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia, 3 December 2024.
- [6] ‘Henry More on the Extended Mind’, presented at the Forum Descartes, Paris, France, 18 January 2024.
- [5] ‘Anne Conway on Memory’, presented at the New Voices on Women in the History of Philosophy Virtual Conference, Centre for the History of Women Philosophers and Scientists, Universität Paderborn, Germany, 26 February 2022.
- [4] ‘Nocturnal Vision in Plato’s *Timaeus*’, presented at the 44<sup>th</sup> Ancient Philosophy Workshop, University of Texas at Austin, USA, 6 March 2021.
- [3] ‘Aquinas on Artifacts and Substances’, presented at the International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, UK, 3 July 2019.
- [2] ‘Arriving at an Ecological-Structuralist Interpretation of Aristotle’s Theory of Visual Perception Through a Reconceptualization of his Theory of Light’, presented at Sensual Reflections: Re-Thinking the Role of the Senses in the Greco-Roman World, University of Cambridge, UK, 8 December 2018.
- [1] ‘The Dangers of a User-Based Model of the Self: A Regress at *Alcibiades I*, 129b–130c’, presented at Plato’s *Alcibiades I* Revisited, University of Cambridge, UK, 21 September 2018.

## SELECTED POSTGRADUATE AND EARLY-CAREER CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- [3] ‘Émilie Du Châtelet on Love’, presented at the Villanova Conference on the Philosophy of Love, University of Villanova, Pennsylvania, USA, 6 April 2024.
- [2] ‘Aristotle on the Role of Emotion in Memory’, presented at the Cambridge History of Memory and Emotions Workshop, Cambridge University, UK, 31 October 2022.
- [1] ‘Ἐνῶπι Σαυτόν: The Object of God’s Νόησις in *Metaphysics* Λ.9’, presented at The Institute of Classical Studies Postgraduate Work-in-Progress Seminar Series, University College London, UK, 16 November 2018.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### University of Michigan

#### **Primary Instructor:**

*(Responsible for all course-design, lecturing, and grading as the sole instructor)*

[2] Love, Loving, and Loss. PHIL 151. Fall Term 2023.

[1] The Self. PHIL 152. Summer Term 2023.

#### **Graduate Student Instructor:**

*(Responsible for all grading and for running two one-hour weekly meetings of my own design)*

[5] Ethics (for Dan Lowe). PHIL 361. Two Sections. Winter Term 2025.

[4] Introduction to Philosophy (for Jim Joyce). PHIL 101. Two Sections. Winter Term 2023.

[3] Introduction to Philosophy (for Maegan Fairchild). PHIL 101. Two Sections. Fall Term 2022.

[2] Descartes to Kant (for Janum Sethi). PHIL 289. Two Sections. Winter Term 2022.

[1] Minds and Machines (for Eric Swanson). PHIL 340. Two Sections. Fall Term 2021.

### University of Oxford

#### **Revision Classes:**

*(Responsible for preparing students for their comprehensive examinations)*

[2] Plato's *Republic*. Hertford College. Hilary and Trinity Terms 2020.

[1] Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*. Hertford College. Hilary and Trinity Terms 2020.

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

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#### **American Philosophical Association**

*APA Task Force on Enrollment and Major Recruitment*

United States of America

February 2023 – Present

#### **The Philosopher's Annual**

*Editor*

Ann Arbor, MI, USA

February 2023 – September 2023

#### **University of Michigan, Department of Philosophy**

*Member of the Philosophy Graduate Admissions Committee*

Ann Arbor, MI, USA

August 2022 – April 2023

#### **American Philosophical Association**

*Member of the APA Executive Board*

United States of America

July 2022 – June 2024

#### **American Philosophical Association**

*Graduate Student Council: Secretary (2021–2022) and Chair (2022–2024)*

United States of America

July 2021 – present

#### **British Philosophical Association**

*Postgraduate Representative on the Executive Committee*

United Kingdom

November 2019 – November 2020

#### **British Postgraduate Philosophy Association**

*President*

United Kingdom

April 2019 – November 2020

#### **University of Oxford, Faculty of Philosophy**

*Chair of the Ockham Society Committee*

Oxford, UK

June 2018 – June 2020

#### **University of Oxford, Faculty of Philosophy**

*Chair of the Jowett Society Committee*

Oxford, UK

June 2018 – July 2019

## ADDITIONAL LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

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<b>University of Michigan, Department of Philosophy</b> <i>Graduate Student Mentor (training and evaluating teaching assistants)</i>	Ann Arbor, MI, USA January 2025 – Present
<b>University of Michigan, Centre for Research on Learning &amp; Teaching</b> <i>Graduate Student Instructional Consultant</i>	Ann Arbor, MI, USA August 2023 – Present
<b>University of Michigan, Sweetland Centre for Writing</b> <i>Student Advisory Board</i>	Ann Arbor, MI, USA September 2022 – May 2023
<b>University of Oxford, Blackfriars Hall</b> <i>President, Middle Common Room and Junior Common Room</i>	Oxford, UK June 2018 – January 2019

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

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**American Philosophical Association**, 2020 – present.

## LANGUAGES

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**English:** native speaker  
**French:** research-level proficiency  
**Latin:** research-level proficiency  
**Spanish:** research-level proficiency  
**Attic Greek:** research-level proficiency

## REFERENCES

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**Tad Schmaltz**  
Professor of Philosophy  
and James B. and Grace J. Nelson Fellow  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
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**Marleen Rozemond**  
Professor of Philosophy  
University of Toronto  
6144 Maanjiwe nendamowinan  
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