

# MARILIE COETSEE

Department of Philosophy  
Hope College  
126 East 10<sup>th</sup> St  
Holland, MI 49423

Email: [coetsee@hope.edu](mailto:coetsee@hope.edu)  
Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/m-coetsee>  
Office: Lubbers Hall, Room 2011

---

## EDUCATION

### ***Ph.D., Philosophy***

Dissertation: *Studies in Ethics and Disagreement*

Dissertation Committee: Ruth Chang (supervisor), Ernest Sosa, Alex Guerrero, David Estlund  
Rutgers University, October 2018

### ***M.A., Religious Studies***

Rutgers University, January 2019

### ***M.A., Philosophy***

Stanford University, June 2011

### ***B.A., Philosophy and Religious Studies (Joint Major), Political Science (Minor)***

Stanford University, June 2010

---

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:** Social and Political Philosophy

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE:** Political Epistemology, Islamic Moral and Political Philosophy, Moral Psychology and Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology, Philosophy of Religion

---

## BOOKS

*Does Faith Belong in Politics? Debating Religious Participation in Pluralistic Polities*  
co-authored with Paul Billingham, under contract with Routledge

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

“The Phenomenal Appreciation of Reasons,” *Oxford Studies in Metaethics* 15 (2020): 24-48

“The Problem of Arbitrary Requirements: An Abrahamic Perspective” (co-authored with Sara Aronowitz and Amir Saemi), *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 89, 3 (2021): 221-42.

“Between Mysticism and Philosophical Rationality: al-Ghazālī on the Reasons of the Heart,” *Comparative Philosophy* 12, 2 (2021): 32-57.

“Consensus, Convergence, and Covid-19: The Role of Religion in Leaders’ Responses to Covid-19,” *Leadership* 13, 3 (2022): 446-64.

“Religion, Islam, and Compliance with Coronavirus Best Practices” (with Rana Dajani), *Journal of Religion and Health* 61, 5 (2022): 4155-68.

“The Moral Duty Against Dogmatism,” *Journal of Ethics* 26, 4 (2022): 563-89.

“Between Sale and Worship: Consistent Inconsistencies in Classical Ḥanafī and Mālikī Rulings on Marital Annulments” (with M. al-Marakeby), *Islamic Law and Society* 28, 4 (2022): 385-424.

“The Problem of Evil and the Pauline Principle: Consent, Logical Constraints, and Free Will,” *Religions* 14,1 (2023): 1-15.

“Against Insular Political Liberalism: Sayyid Qutb, Illiberal Islam, and the Forceless Force of the Better Argument,” *Philosophy and Social Criticism, Forthcoming* (online first [here](#)).

“On the Reasonability of Reasoning with the Religious Unreasonable,” *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy, Forthcoming* (online first [here](#)).

“On Giving Others the Benefit of the Doubt: Persuasion and the Political Imperative for Inquiry,” *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy, Revise and Resubmit*

“Piety, Public Justification, and the Democratic Duty Against Dogmatism,” *Under Review*

### ***Works in Progress***

“Political Polarizer or Moral Mediator? Promises and Pitfalls of Sacred Community in a Secular Age”

“Don’t Be So Shallow: Why Political Liberals Can Go Deep Despite Diversity”

“Public Reasons and Public Schools: Evolution, Creationism, and Methodological Naturalism in the Classroom”

“Classical Ḥanafī and Mālikī Rulings on Marriage and the Principle of Core Requirements”

### **REFERENCE ARTICLES**

“Moral Disagreement,” invited entry for the *Encyclopedia of Leadership Studies*, G. Goethals and S. Allison (Eds.), Sage Publications, 2023.

“Religious Disagreement,” invited entry for the *Encyclopedia of Leadership Studies*, G. Goethals and S. Allison (Eds.), Sage Publications, 2023.

“Multiculturalism, the Ethics of” invited entry for the *Encyclopedia of Leadership Studies*, G. Goethals and S. Allison (Eds.), Sage Publications, 2023.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Review of *Buddhism and Political Theory* (Matthew J. Moore, Oxford University Press: 2016), for *Religious Studies Review*.

---

## PRESENTATIONS

*Presentations marked with an \* were selected by peer review.*

### ***“Does Faith Belong in Politics? Debating Religious Participation in Pluralistic Polities”***

Invited session at conference on ‘Liberty, Equality, Religion’ (June 1-2, 2023), Oxford University, UK

Invited book session (with Paul Billingham) at conference on ‘The Future of European Religion-State Regimes’ (November 21-22, 2022), Cambridge University, UK

### ***“On Giving Others the Benefit of the Doubt: Persuasion and the Political Imperative for Inquiry”***

\* American Philosophical Association, Central Division Conference (February 21-24, 2024), New Orleans, LA.

\* Toronto Philosophy of Religion Conference (December 14-15), Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada

### ***“Piety, Public Justification, and the Democratic Duty Against Dogmatism”***

\* MANCEPT Workshop (September 11-13, 2023), University of Manchester, UK

### ***“Political Polarizer or Moral Mediator? Promises and Pitfalls of Sacred Community in a Secular Age”***

\* Political Theologies of Enmity: Time and the Other (March 18-19, 2024), Oxford University, UK.

God’s People Seeking (Sunday School Class; February 11, 2024), Church of the Servant, Grand Rapids, MI.

\* 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference (April 21-22, 2023), Weatherford College, TX

\* Are Religious Worldviews Still Relevant for Democracy Today? (June 16-17, 2022), Cambridge University, UK

### ***“Personal Faith in a Public Context: Religious Devotion without Dogmatism”***

\* Society of Christian Philosophy, Midwest Division, Bowling Green State University (November 10-12, 2022), Bowling Green, Ohio.

\* Bowling Green State University Workshop in Applied Ethics and Public Policy (April 1-2, 2022), Bowling Green, Ohio.

\* Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (February 24-27, 2022), Cincinnati, Ohio.

\* Princeton Project in Philosophy and Religion (October 2021), hybrid conference hosted by Princeton University, Princeton.

***“Between Mysticism and Philosophical Rationality: al-Ghazālī on the Reasons of the Heart”***

\* “Women on Medieval Philosophy (July 8-10, 2021), hosted online by KU Leuven.

Invited presentation for Bashshar Haydar’s course in Islamic Ethics (April 8, 2021), American University of Beirut.

\* Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics (January 7-10, 2021).

*Invited Keynote*, Muslim-Christian Workshop on Philosophy, Religion and Science (March 9-12, 2020), Ibn Haldun University, Istanbul, Turkey. (*Cancelled due to COVID-19*)

***“The Social Costs of Dogmatism and the Imperative for Inquiry”***

\* “On Giving Others the Benefit of the Doubt: Deliberative Inquiry Against Compromise and Pure Persuasion,” Philosophy of Conflict, Conceptual Foundations of Conflict Project at University of Southern California (hosted online, June 16-17, 2022)

\* Society for Christian Philosophy, Eastern Regional Conference (hosted online March 6, 2022).

\* Great Lakes Philosophy Conference (April 9–11, 2021), hosted online by Siena Heights University.

\* American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Conference (April 8–11, 2021; postponed from 2020), San Francisco, California/Online.

*Invited Keynote*, William & Mary Undergraduate Philosophy Conference (April 4–5, 2020), Williamsburg, Virginia. (*Cancelled due to COVID-19*)

***“The Problem of Arbitrary Requirements: An Abrahamic Perspective”***

Interfaith Workshop on Randomness and Providence (June 18-20, 2019), Casablanca ONOMO Hotel.

Abrahamic Reflections on Science and Religion (June 22, 2019), Amman, Jordan.

***“On Digging Deep to Defend Democracy: Sayyid Qutb, Illiberal Islam, and the Forceless Force of the Better Argument”***

\* Association for Political Theory (October 27 – 29, 2022), University of Houston.

Ethics Working Group (December 5, 2019), University of Richmond

\* Democratic Renewal in Times of Polarisation (September 19-20, 2019), Katholieke Universiteit Lueven.

\* “American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Conference (January 3–6, 2018), Savannah, Georgia.

\* MANCEPT Workshop in Political Theory (September 11–13, 2017), The University of Manchester, United Kingdom.

\* Princeton Workshop in Social Philosophy (September 22, 2016), Princeton University, New Jersey.

\* American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Conference (March 30–April 3, 2016), San Francisco, California.

\* Association for Social and Political Philosophy (June 25–26, 2015), Amsterdam University, The Netherlands.

\* Austin Graduate Ethics & Normativity Talks (October 10–11, 2014), University of Texas at Austin, Texas.

***“The Phenomenal Appreciation of Reasons (Or, How Not to be a Psychopath)”***

\* Northwestern Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics (NUSTEP) (June 23-25, 2022), Northwestern University, Illinois.

\* Madison Metaethics Workshop (September 15–17, 2017), University of Wisconsin at Madison, Wisconsin.

\* Affect: Memory, Aesthetics, and Ethics Interdisciplinary Conference (September 18–20, 2015), University of Manitoba, Canada.

\* European Philosophical Society for the Study of Emotions (July 15–17, 2015), University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

\* Analytic Existentialism Conference (October 20–21, 2014), Ghent University, Belgium.

***Other Presentations***

Invited Comments on Boyd, “Scientific Testimony and the Politicization of Expertise,” Second Annual Political Epistemology Conference (December 13-14, 2019), Trippenhuis, Amsterdam.

Invited Comments on Vallier, “Christian Reconciliation through the Use of Public Reason” First Annual Political Philosophy and Religion Workshop (November 8-9, 2019), Notre Dame, Indiana.

Comments for Nick Tebben, “Belief to Commitment” (January 4–7, 2017), American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Conference, Baltimore, Maryland.

“The Fact of Reasonable Pluralism and the Possibility of a Permission for Religious Reasons,” Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion and Philosophical Theology (June 14–29, 2016), University of St. Thomas, Minnesota.

“Science and the Sacred” with Murat Arici, Workshop on Science and Religion in Islam and Christianity (June 11–12, 2015), Grand Valley State University, Michigan.

\* “Love, Reason, and Religion in Politics,” Inaugural Theistic Ethics Workshop (October 8–12, 2015), Wake Forest University, North Carolina.

“Psychology, Belief, and Value” (with Caner Taslaman), Workshop on Science and Religion in Islam and Christianity (June 27, 2014), Yildiz Technical University, Turkey.

“Slurs as Phenomenal Representations,” Rutgers-Lund Conference (April 17–18, 2014), Rutgers University, New Jersey.

---

**OTHER PROJECTS AND WORKSHOPS**

Convener, “First Fridays on Faith and Politics,” monthly Zoom presentations from academics working on the intersection of religion, politics, and social philosophy. Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/religion-politics-philosophy/home>

Fellow, Inclusive Pedagogy Cohort, University of Richmond (2021-2022)

Convener, panel on “Ethical Perspectives on Leadership” with Eric Schliesser, Andrew Sabl, and Amanda Greene, Ethics of Choice Conference (February 10-12, 2022), University of Richmond. (*Postponed from 2020 due to COVID-19*)

Invited participant, John Marshall Center faculty seminar on “Tolerance and Civility” (February 6-8, 2020), organized by Terry Price and Dan Palazzolo, University of Richmond.

Fellow in the Templeton Project “Abrahamic Perspectives on Randomness and Divine Providence.” Muslim, Jewish, and Christian interfaith project joining philosophers, scientists, and scholars of religion. Joint research presented at three consecutive annual workshops, 2017–2019.

Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion and Philosophical Theology (June 14–June 29, 2016), organized by Michael Rota and Dean Zimmerman, University of St. Thomas.

Summer Seminar in Moral Phenomenology (June 29–July 3, 2015), sessions led by Terry Horgan, Uriah Kriegel, Mark Timmons, and others, Central European University.

---

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Social and Political Philosophy (Fall 2023), Hope College

Knowledge and the Ethics of Democratic Deliberation (Spring 2020, 2023), University of Richmond

Justice and Civil Society (Spring 2019, 2020, 2021, 2023), University of Richmond

Leadership Ethics (Fall 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022), University of Richmond

Introduction to Ethics (Spring 2018), Rutgers University

Introduction to Ethics (Summer 2016, online), Rutgers University

Introduction to Existentialism (Spring 2016), Rutgers University

Introduction to Philosophy (Spring 2015), Rutgers University

---

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

*Templeton Fellow*, Rutgers Center for the Philosophy of Religion (2016)

*Mellon Pre-Dissertation Travel Award*, Rutgers University (2015)

*Mellon Fellowship*, Rutgers University (2012–2014, 2017)

---

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Jepson School of Leadership Studies, University of Richmond (2020-2023)

Cultural Affairs Committee, University of Richmond (2020-2022)

Haynes Chair Search Committee, University of Richmond (2019-2020)

University Academic Integrity Committee (Fall 2019)

Academic Disabilities Accommodation Committee (Fall 2019)

Ethics Bowl Team Coach, Jepson School of Leadership Studies (Fall 2019)

First Year Seminar Committee, University of Richmond (Spring 2019)

Scholarship Committee, Jepson School of Leadership Studies, University of Richmond (2018-2022)

Editorial Assistant to Ernest Sosa for *Noûs* (Fall 2016)

Prospective Student Visit Co-Coordinator, Rutgers Philosophy Department (2013–2014, 2014–2015)

---

## **PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY & OTHER SERVICE**

“Between Mysticism and Philosophical Rationality: al-Ghazālī on the Reasons of the Heart,” *Sufi Journal of Mystical Philosophy and Practice*, 92 (2016)

External Research Consultant on Religion in Contemporary American Politics, Fetzer Institute (Fall 2017), Kalamazoo, MI.

Leader for Workshop on Religion and Politics, Shrinemont Episcopal Retreat Center (scheduled to follow publication of book *Does Faith Belong in Politics?*)