

Troy Polidori

University of Tennessee
Department of Philosophy
801 McClung Tower
Knoxville, TN 37966
Email: tpolidor@vols.utk.edu

Research Interests

Areas of Specialization: Normative Ethics, Value Theory, Social and Political Philosophy

Areas of Competence: Applied Ethics, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Action,
Analytic/Continental Divide, Post-Kantian Philosophy

Education

2019 – Present (expected 2024)

PhD, Philosophy

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Dissertation Committee:

Jon Garthoff (chair)

Adam Cureton

Kristina Gehrman

Thomas Haddock

Dissertation title: *Tragedy, Value, and Morality*

Summary: I provide an account of tragedy as a phenomenon in practical life broadly. Tragedy does not fundamentally consist in the conflict of values (moral or otherwise), but in the inhospitality of the world to what matters. I argue that this account reorients our understanding of the tragic aspect of moral dilemmas in a way that makes sense of how moral obligations can hold in tragic circumstances. It also illuminates the characteristic phenomenology associated with the experience of tragedy.

2017 - 2019

MA, Philosophy

California State University, Los Angeles

2008 - 2009

MTh, Theology and Religious Studies

University of Aberdeen

2004 – 2008

BA, Biblical Studies

The Master's College

Teaching

University of Tennessee

2022-2023

Instructor

Contemporary Moral Problems

2021-2022	Graduate Teaching Assistant <i>Professional Responsibility</i> (Ryan Windeknecht)
2021	Instructor <i>Intro to Philosophy</i>
2019-2020	Graduate Teaching Assistant <i>Intro to Philosophy</i> (Kristina Gehrman) <i>Contemporary Moral Problems</i> (Adam Cureton)

Antelope Valley College

2016-2018	Instructor <i>Intro to Philosophy</i> <i>World Religions</i> <i>Philosophy of Religion</i>
-----------	---

College of the Canyons

2013-2018	Instructor <i>Intro to Philosophy</i> <i>Critical Reasoning</i>
-----------	---

Papers

- “Tragedy as an Independent Real-World Phenomenon” (in preparation)
- “Persistent Beliefs,” *Philosophy in Practice* Vol. 12 (2018), 1-15.

Presentations

- “Tragedy as an Independent Real-World Phenomenon”
 - Delivered at the annual Tennessee Philosophical Association Conference (2023)
 - Delivered at the UTK Epistemology/Ethics Writing Group (2023)
- Commentary on Brian Ribeiro, “A Sorites Paradox for Personal Identity”
 - Delivered at the annual Tennessee Philosophical Association Conference (2023)

Book Reviews

Review of Ricoeur on *Time and Narrative: An Introduction to Temps Et Recit*, by William C. Dowling (University of Notre Dame Press '11), *The Heythrop Journal* 56.6 (2015), 1071-1072.

Review of *Philosophical Hermeneutics Reinterpreted: Dialogues with Existentialism, Pragmatism, Critical Theory and Postmodernism*, by Paul Fairfield (Continuum '11), *The Heythrop Journal* 55.4 (2014), 745-746.

Review of *After the Postsecular and the Postmodern: New Essays in Continental Philosophy of Religion*, ed. by A. Smith & D. Whistler (Cambridge Scholars Pr. '10), *The Heythrop Journal* 54.2 (2013), 338-339.

Review of *A Genealogy of Marion's Philosophy of Religion: Apparent Darkness*, by Tamsin Jones (Indiana UP '11), *The Heythrop Journal* 54.2 (2013), 335-336.

Awards

- 2023 John Hardwig Teaching Prize
University of Tennessee
- 2021 Richard Aquila Essay Prize Runner-Up
University of Tennessee
- 2019-2023 Graduate Excellence Fellowship
University of Tennessee
- 2019 J. Wallace and Katie Dean Graduate Fellowship
University of Tennessee
- 2018 Alfred B. Glathe Award & Scholarship
California State University, Los Angeles

Service

- 2022 PGSA President, Conference Organizer
UTK Philosophy Graduate Student Association
- 2020-2023 Conference Committee Member
UTK Philosophy Graduate Student Association
- 2020-2023 Judge
Tennessee High School Ethics Bowl

Graduate Coursework

University of Tennessee

- The Nature and Value of Thought* (Jon Garthoff, audited)
Marx (Richard Eldridge, audited)
Meaning and Morality (Jon Garthoff)
Naming and Necessity (Jon Garthoff)
Environmental Ethics (John Nolt)
Epistemic Dimensions of Agency (EJ Coffman)

The History of the Idea of Nature (Kristina Gehrman)
Obligation, Judgment, and Character (Jon Garthoff)
Kant (Richard Edlrdige)
Hegel (Richard Edlrdige)
Quine, Chomsky, Davidson (Richard Edlrdige, audited)
The Nature and Value of Consciousness (Jon Garthoff)

California State University, Los Angeles

Existentialism (Michael Shim)
Philosophy of Mind: The Quality of Thought (David Pitt)
Metaphysics: Intimacy, Gender, and Personhood (Talia Bettcher)
Ethics (Richard Dean)
Metaphysics (David Pitt)
Advanced Philosophical Writing, Journal Editing and Production (Michael Shim)
Bioethics (Richard Dean)
Philosophy of Mind (David Pitt)
Symbolic Logic (Mark Balaguer)
Philosophy of Language (David Pitt)
Kant's Ethics (Richard Dean)

References

University of Tennessee

Dr. Jonathan Garthoff, Director of Graduate Studies, Philosophy (garthoff@utk.edu)
Dr. Kristina Gehrman, Faculty, Philosophy (kgehrma1@utk.edu)
Dr. Richard Eldridge, Emeritus, Philosophy (reldrid8@utk.edu)

California State University, Los Angeles

Dr. David Pitt, Department Chair, Philosophy (dpitt@calstatela.edu)
Dr. Richard Dean, Faculty, Philosophy (rdean@calstatela.edu)