Rebecca Caithamer

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Profile

Rebecca is a creative and strategic researcher and educator. She is currently looking to utilize her skills in teaching, lesson planning, researching, database searching, close-text reading, analysis, organization, innovation, problem-solving, efficiency, communication, leadership, and enthusiasm.

Education

University of Illinois Chicago

Doctor of Philosophy in Philosophy — Expected Graduated: May 2030

GPA: 4.0
Dissertation:
Advisor: Justin Vlasits, PhD

Loyola University Chicago

Master of Arts in Philosophy — Graduated: August 2022

GPA: 3.83
MA Research Paper: "Aristotle on the Acquisition of Scientific Intellectual Virtues"
Advisor: Joshua Mendelsohn, PhD

Bachelor of Arts, *summa cum laude* — Graduated: May 2020

Majors: Ancient Greek, Classical Civilizations
Minors: Anthropology, Latin, Philosophy
GPA: 3.9

Teaching Experience

***Primary Instructor,* University of Illinois Chicago** — **January 2025 – Present**

- Modified and delivered undergraduate course content in Philosophy.
- Managed instructional responsibilities, including hosting discussion sections, grading assignments and examinations, and maintaining timely communication with students.
- Facilitated an engaging classroom environment through responsive student support and effective use of Blackboard and Canvas.

Courses Taught:

- PHIL 101: Critical Thinking; PHIL 102: Introduction to Logic; PHIL 115: Death, PHIL 201: Theories of Knowledge

***Instructor,* Northwestern Center for Talent Development** — **June 2025 – Present**

- Designed and implemented course curriculum, including syllabus and online course platform
- Fostered an open, rigorous, and well-supervised classroom environment that supported student engagement, safety, and academic growth
- Evaluated student performance and communicated progress effectively to students, families, and program leadership

Courses Taught:

- Mock Trial (6^{th}-8^{th} grade); The Art of Public Speaking (5^{th}-6^{th} grade)

***Teaching Assistant*, University of Illinois Chicago** **August 2024 – December 2024**

- Graded weekly assignments, exams, and participation in accordance with instructor expectations.
- Facilitated discussion sections and held regular office.
- Collaborated closely with fellow teaching assistants and the primary instructor to coordinate instruction, maintain grading consistency, and address student needs effectively.

Courses:

- PHIL 102: Introduction to Logic

***Classical Languages Department Head*, Naperville Christian Academy** **March 2021 – January 2024**

- Create, teach, and adapt lessons for classes listed below.
- Design Latin and Ancient Greek curriculum for 6^{th}-12^{th} grade.
- Develop, lead, train, and formally evaluate a Classical Language Department for grades 3^{rd}-12th.

Courses Taught:

- Latin I (Intro to Latin Grammar); Latin II (Intermediate Latin Grammar); Lattin III: (Intro to Translation) Eutropius, Cicero, Caesar; Honors Latin Poetry: Vergil, Catullus, Horace, and Ovid; Honors Medieval Latin: Seneca, Perpetua, Boethius, Augustine, Aquinas; Honors Latin Readings with a focus on Roman Philosophy: Seneca, Lucretius, Boethius, Augustine; Honors Greek: *Alpha to Omega*, The Gospel of John, Selections from Aristotle; Honors Ancient Greek Literature and Philosophy; Honors Roman Literature and Philosophy

***Private Tutor,* Independent** **March 2021 - Present**

- High School formal academic writing
- ACT/Standardized Tests
- Latin

***Senior Thesis Advisor,* Naperville Christian Academy** **August 2022- January 2024**

- Advise high school seniors on research and writing of senior thesis.
- Topics advised: Just War Theory, Contemporary Conflicts, Memory, Historical Interpretation

Research Experience

***Research Assistant,* University of Illinois, Chicago** **August 2026- Present**

- Working with Professor Ralph Keen on his work on Philipp Melanchthon

***Index Research Assistant,* University of Illinois, Chicago** **February– August 2026**

- Researched and developed the comprehensive index for Samuel *Fleischacker's From Idolatry to Holiness*, prepared for publication by Cambridge University Press.
- Identified and organized key concepts, names, themes, and cross-references to ensure accurate and intuitive navigation of the text.
- Formatted and entered the completed index in Microsoft Word in accordance with the publisher's production requirements.

***Graduate Assistant,* University of Illinois, Chicago** **February– May 2026**

- Coordinated conference logistics for the Midwest Annual Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, including hotel accommodations, meals, coffee breaks, and printing within a defined budget.
- Managed multiple vendors and logistical details to support the smooth execution of the workshop from planning through completion.

- Assisted with on-site conference operations and resolved logistical needs as they arose.

***Researcher,* United Nations through Loyola University Chicago** **June 2022 – December 2022**

- Evaluate and compile various sources to make a database to support the Special Rapporteur on unilateral coercive measures mandate (A/HRC/RES/27/21).
- Write a paper for the SR that assesses the US' sanctions' effect on the full enjoyment of human rights.

***Graduate Research Assistant,* Loyola University Chicago** **September 2021 – December 2021**

- Compile data and make analyses about Aristotle's usages of certain phrases and words.
- Create excel spreadsheets organizing data collected from extensive searches of Aristotle's texts.
- Translate and categorize significant passages from Aristotle about *episteme* (knowledge).

***Provost Fellowship Researcher,* Loyola University Chicago** **August 2019 – May 2020**

- Analyze primary texts and archaeological data to determine characteristics of the antebellum occupants of site 11-MH-515.
- Design timeline of the movements of the occupants and their positions held in the community to develop a better understand of their role in the McHenry County community.
- Create a poster and handout to present research findings to public.

Presentations

Aristotle's Non-Aristotelian Account of Gender **October 2026**
6th annual Canadian Aristotle Society

Young Geniuses and Intellectual Virtue: Aristotle's Exception in *EN* VI.8 **October 2025**
Dr. C. Michael Gelven NIU Graduate Philosophy Conference

Experiential Learning: The Role of Experience in the Acquiring Aristotle's ἐπιστήμη of Natural Science **March 2024**
The Classical Association of the Middle West and South Annual Meeting

Service

***President of Philosophy Graduate Students,* University of Illinois Chicago** **2026-Present**

***Student Experience Volunteer,* The Art Institute of Chicago** **2026-Present**

***Colloquium Committee,* University of Illinois Chicago** **2024-2026**

***Conference Moderator/Mentor,* Loyola University Chicago** **Spring 2021**

***Volunteer Captain,* Education Department at The Field Museum** **December 2017 – May 2020**

Awards

- Classics Degree Distinction at Loyola University Chicago 2020
- Abel Key in Ancient Greek 2020
- *summa cum laude,* National Latin Exam 2020
- Provost Fellowship at Loyola University 2019-2020
- CAMWS Certificate 2019

- Loyola University Chicago's Dean's List 2017-2020

Areas of Teaching Competency

- Philosophy
  - Ancient
  - Ethics
  - Introductory Logic
  - Epistemology
- Ancient Greek
- Latin

Languages

- Latin (Advanced)
- Ancient Greek (Advanced)