

Merrick Anderson

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University of Southern California
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Updated October 2024

EMPLOYMENT

2024-	University of Southern California, School of Philosophy Assistant Professor
2021-24	University College London, Department of Philosophy British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow
2019-21	University College London, Department of Philosophy Keeling Research Fellow
2018-19	Princeton University, Department of Philosophy Postgraduate Research Associate and Lecturer

EDUCATION

2013-18	Princeton University, Ph.D. in Philosophy Program in Ancient Philosophy
2012	M.A. in Political Theory, The University of Toronto
2011	B.A. in Philosophy, The University of Toronto <i>Graduated with High Distinction</i>

AREAS OF

Specialization	Ancient Philosophy, Social and Political Philosophy
Competence	Metaethics, Normative Ethics, History of Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS Books

1. 2024. *Just Prospering? Plato and the Sophistic Debate about Justice*
Oxford University Press

Papers

2. “Knock, Knock! Who’s There? A Comic Immoralist with an Inclusive Account of Jokes,” forthcoming in *The Journal of Aesthetic Education*
3. “Towards a New Understanding of the Nature of the Virtues in the *Republic*,” forthcoming in (ed.) Carolina Araujo, *Platonic Power*
4. “A New Role for the Philosopher Rulers: Situating 519c-521d in its Argumentative Context,” forthcoming in (eds.) M. M. McCabe and S. Trepanier, *Rereading Plato’s Republic*.
5. 2024. “The Power of Courage in Plato’s *Republic*,” *The Journal of the History of Philosophy* 62.1: 1-23
6. 2020. “What are the Wages of Justice? Rethinking the *Republic*’s Division of Goods,” *Phronesis* 65.1: 1-26
7. 2019. “*Legein* to What End?,” *Australasian Philosophical Review* 3.2: 176-82
8. 2019. “Immortality or Immortality? An Argument for Virtue,” *Rhetorica* 37.2: 97-119
9. 2016. “Thrasymachus’ Sophistic Account of Justice in *Republic* i,” *Ancient Philosophy* 36.1: 151-72

– Commissioned for Edited Volumes

10. “Ethical and Political Thought,” Commissioned for (eds.) J. Bryan, L. Cantor, and S. Tor, *The Routledge Companion of Presocratic Philosophy*
11. Translation of and Commentary on Part of Plato’s *Protagoras* (with Joshua Billings), commissioned and completed for (eds.) C. Moore, D. Napoli, and D. Williams, *Hippias of Elis: Texts, Translation, Commentaries*

– Book Reviews

12. 2018. “Plato-Nietzsche: Philosophy the Other Way Translated by Kenneth Quandt,” *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*. [bmcrc.brynmawr.edu/2018/2018.10.05/]

– Under Review

13. “The Sophists, Human Nature, and the First Political Societies: A Reply to Robitzsch,” *Under Review*

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

At University College London

1. 2021-2024. British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship
Competitive Research Fellowship worth £325,655.94
2. 2019-20. Research Fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Studies, London

At Princeton University

3. 2017-18. Mildred W. and Alfred T. Carton, Class of 1905 Fellowship
Competitive named fellowship for outstanding research in the Humanities
4. 2016-17. Laurance S. Rockefeller Graduate Prize Fellowship
5. 2014-17. University Center for Human Values Travel Grant
6. 2013-18. Paul Elmer More Fellowship
7. 2013-18. Stanley J. Seeger Graduate Fellowship

At the University of Toronto

8. 2012. Hertog Political Studies Program Fellowship
 9. 2010-11. Socrates Project Fellowship
 10. 2011. New College Registrar's Graduation Award in the Humanities
For having the highest GPA in the Humanities of New College's Graduating Class
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TEACHING

At University of Southern California

1. Spring, 2025. PHIL 515: Studies in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy
2. Spring 2025 PHIL 415: Aristotle
3. Fall, 2024. PHIL 315: History of Western Philosophy, Ancient Period

At University College London

4. Fall, 2021. PHIL 0186: Advanced Topics in Plato's Philosophy
5. Fall, 2020. PHIL 0186: Advanced Topics in Plato's Philosophy
6. Fall, 2019. PHIL 0001: Introduction to Ancient Philosophy

At Princeton University Primary Instructor

7. Fall, 2018. PHI/CLA 205: Introduction to Ancient Philosophy

At Princeton University Assistant Instructor

8. Fall, 2017. PHI 385: Practical Ethics
9. Fall, 2016. PHI 300: Plato and his Predecessors
10. Fall, 2014. PHI 306: Nietzsche

At the University of Toronto Teaching Assistant

11. Spring, 2013. PHL 385: Ethics and Mental Health
 12. Spring, 2012. PHL 105: Introduction to Philosophy
 13. Fall, 2011. PHL 271: Law and Morality
 14. Academic Year, 2010-11. PHL 100: Introduction to Philosophy
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TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. 06.2024. "Protagoras' Politics"
Protagoras Workshop in Siracusa, Italy
2. 06.2024. "Three Platonic Responses to the Appeal of Injustice"
University College London, London
3. 05. 2024. "Three Platonic Responses to the Appeal of Injustice"
University of Humboldt, Berlin
4. 01.2023. "On Glaucon and Adeimantus' Real Challenge and Socrates' Response"
University of South Florida, Florida
5. 01.2023. "On Glaucon and Adeimantus' Real Challenge and Socrates' Response"
Northwestern University, Illinois
6. 02.2023. "On Glaucon and Adeimantus' Real Challenge and Socrates' Response"
Concordia University, Quebec
7. 03.2023. "On Glaucon and Adeimantus' Real Challenge and Socrates' Response"
University of Southern California, California
8. 07.2022. "Hippias on *nomos* and *phusis*" *Hippias in Siracusa, Italy*
9. 11.2021. "Republic II and the 5th-Century Debate about Justice" *Oxford Ancient Philosophy Workshop, Oxford University*
10. 10.2021. "Towards a New Understanding of the Nature of the Virtues in the *Republic*" *Plato Powers Project Workshop, Rio de Janeiro (online)*
11. 11.2020. "Notes on Plato's Philosophical Anthropology" *Oxford University Philosophy Society, Oxford University (Online)*
12. 10.2020. "On Courage in Plato's *Republic* and its Lessons for us Today"
Institute for Advanced Studies, London (Online)
13. 02.2020. "A Sophistic Dialectic in *Republic II*?" *Keeling Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, University College London*
14. 11.2019. "Canines, Cosmetics, and Courtesans: *Nomos* and *Phusis* in the *Republic*"
A.G. Leventis Conference, University of Edinburgh
15. 10.2019. "The Structure and Anatomy of the Platonic Virtues" *Institute for Classical Studies, London*
16. 06.2019. "The Power of Justice: *Dunamis* in the *Republic*" *Philosophy Department, University College London*
17. 06.2019. "The Moral Philosophy of the Anonymous Iamblich and its Influence"
Department of Classics, Durham University
18. 04.2019. "The Power of Justice: *Dunamis* in the *Republic*" *Pennsylvania Circle of Ancient Philosophy, Villanova University*
19. 03.2019. "The Ethics of Comedy and Offense" *Human Values Forum, Princeton University*
20. 01.2019. "The Power of Justice: *Dunamis* in the *Republic*" *Philosophy Department, Brown University*
21. 07.2018. "Comments on Capelletto's "On Sympathy, or how to Escape Empathy"
Workshop of the Postclassicism Initiative, Mumbai

22. 04.2019. “Comments on Silian’s “Shapes as Objects of Mathematics in Ptolemy”
6th LMU-HU Joint Graduate Workshop, Berlin
 23. 10.2017. “How Does Justice Pay? An Analysis of Plato’s *Republic*” *Classical
Philosophy Work in Progress Seminar, Princeton University*
 24. 06.2016. “Democritus on Eudaimonia” *International Association of Presocratic
Studies, Austin*
 25. 10.2015. “Immorality or Immortality? An Argument for Virtue” *Princeton
Philosophical Society, Princeton University*
 26. 03.2015. “Comments on Mi-Kyoung Lee’s “The Sophists on Greek Morality”
Toronto Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, University of Toronto
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REFERENCES

Research

Hendrik Lorenz (Primary Supervisor), Professor of Philosophy
Princeton University, Philosophy
+1 (609) 258 4300, hlorenz@princeton.edu

Alexander Nehamas, Class of 1943 Professor in Humanities
Princeton University, Philosophy
+1 (609) 258 4309, nehamas@princeton.edu

Melissa Lane, Class of 1943 Professor of Politics
Princeton University, Politics
+1 (609) 258 4860, mslane@princeton.edu

Rachel Barney (External), Professor of Philosophy and Director of the
Collaborative Program in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy
The University of Toronto, Philosophy
+1 (416) 978 8513, rachel.barney@utoronto.ca

Fiona Leigh, Senior Lecturer and Director of Keeling Center for Ancient
Philosophy
University College London, Philosophy
+44 (0)20 7679 3074, fiona.leigh@ucl.ac.uk

Teaching

Benjamin Morison, Professor of Philosophy and Director of the
Program in Classical Philosophy
Princeton University, Philosophy
+1 (609) 258 4304, bmorison@princeton.edu

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Ancient Greek, Latin, German (reading), French (beginner)

OTHER SERVICE

At University College London

- 2022-23. Organizer, Keeling Workshop in Ancient Philosophy
- 2021-22. M.A. dissertation supervisor for Kesara Ariyapongpaioj
- 2020-21. Director of *How to be an Antiracist* Reading Group

At Princeton University

- 2018-19. Senior thesis supervisor for Simeon Lane and Elizabeth Jobson
- 2017, 2019. Conference Moderator
- 2014-19. Resident Graduate Student, Butler College