
E. J. COFFMAN

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The University of Tennessee
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PhilPeople
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, 2006
▪ Dissertation: *An Essay on the Logic of Warrant*
▪ Directors: Alvin Plantinga and Ted Warfield

M.A., Philosophy, University of Arkansas, 2000
▪ Thesis: *Three Recent Causalist Accounts of Free Agency*
▪ Director: Christopher Hill

B.A., Philosophy, University of Arkansas, 1998

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Professor of Philosophy, University of Tennessee (August 2016-)
▪ College of Arts and Sciences Lindsay Young Professor (August 2016-July 2019)

Associate Professor of Philosophy (with tenure), University of Tennessee (August 2012-July 2016)
▪ College of Arts and Sciences Lindsay Young Professor (August 2013-July 2016)
▪ College of Arts and Sciences Junior Faculty Fellow (August 2012-July 2013)

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Tennessee (August 2007-July 2012)
▪ College of Arts and Sciences Junior Faculty Fellow (August 2011-July 2012)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Epistemology, Philosophy of Action

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Religion

BOOK

Luck: Its Nature and Significance for Human Knowledge and Agency (Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan [2015]), pp. xii + 202

ARTICLES

41. "Knowledge of Practical Freedom: a Moorean Defense," *Synthese* 208, 125 (2026): 1-25

40. "On the Powers of Predetermined Free Agents," *Thought* 12 (2025): 120-126

39. "The Consequence Argument and Ordinary Human Agency," *Synthese* 203, 96 (2024): 1-11
38. "Norms of Belief and Knowledge from Non-Knowledge," in *Illuminating Errors: New Essays on Knowledge from Non-Knowledge*, eds. Rodrigo Borges and Ian Schnee (New York: Routledge [2023]), 11-27
37. "Involuntarism Impugned?" *Synthese* 200, 362 (2022): 1-11
36. "Unsettledness and the Intentionality of Practical Decisions," *Philosophical Explorations* 25 (2022): 220-231
35. "Is Fallible Knowledge Attributable?" *Acta Analytica* 37 (2022): 73-83
34. "Blameworthiness, Willings, and Practical Decisions," *Philosophical Inquiries* 9 (2021): 49-56
33. "Moral Blameworthiness, Quality of Will, and Akratic Action," *The Journal of Value Inquiry* 54 (2020): 365-370
32. "Direct Blameworthiness for Non-Conduct?" *Philosophia* 47 (2019): 1087-1094
31. "Practical Decision and the Cognitive Requirements for Blameworthiness," *Midwest Studies in Philosophy* 43 (2019): 119-135
30. "Do We Decide Intentionally?" *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 96 (2018): 822-827
29. "Gettiered Belief," in *Explaining Knowledge: New Essays on the Gettier Problem*, eds. Rodrigo Borges, Claudio de Almeida, and Peter Klein (Oxford: Oxford University Press [2017]), 15-34
28. "Deliberation," in *The Routledge Companion to Free Will*, eds. Meghan Griffith, Neil Levy and Kevin Timpe (New York: Routledge [2017]), 590-599
27. "Incompatibilist Commitment and Moral Self-Knowledge: The Epistemology of Libertarianism," *Philosophical Issues* 26 (2016): 78-98
26. "Strokes of Luck," *Metaphilosophy* 45 (2014): 477-508
 - Reprinted in *The Philosophy of Luck*, eds. D. Pritchard and L. Whittington (Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell [2015]), 27-58
25. "Replies to Long and Tucker," in *Skeptical Theism: New Essays*, eds. Trent Dougherty and Justin McBrayer (Oxford: Oxford University Press [2014]), 76-84
24. "Lenient Accounts of Warranted Assertability," in *Epistemic Norms: New Essays on Action, Belief and Assertion*, eds. Clayton Littlejohn and John Turri (Oxford: Oxford University Press [2014]), 33-58
23. "Can Virtue Epistemology Capitalize on JTB's Appeal?" *Philosophical Issues* 23 (2013): 199-222
22. "Problems for Foley's Accounts of Rational Belief and Responsible Belief" (with Matt Deaton), *Res Philosophica* 90 (2013): 147-160
21. "Conciliationism and Uniqueness" (with Nathan Ballantyne), *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 90 (2012): 657-670
20. "Contextualism and Interest-Relative Invariantism," *Continuum Companion to Epistemology*, ed. Andrew Cullison (London: Continuum [2012]), 199-226

19. "Stump on the Nature of Atonement," in *Science, Religion, and Metaphysics: New Essays on the Philosophy of Alvin Plantinga*, eds. Kelly James Clark and Michael Rea (Oxford: Oxford University Press [2012]), 144-151
18. "Uniqueness, Evidence, and Rationality" (with Nathan Ballantyne), *Philosophers' Imprint* 11/18 (December 2011): 1-13
17. "Does Knowledge Secure Warrant to Assert?" *Philosophical Studies* 154 (2011): 285-300
16. "Two Claims about Epistemic Propriety," *Synthese* 181 (2011): 471-488
15. "Omniprescience and Tough Choices," *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Religion* 3 (2011): 41-54
14. "Clarke's Defense of the Contrast Argument," *dialectica* 65 (2011): 267-275
13. "Hiddenness, Evidence, and Idolatry" (with Jeff Cervantez), in *Evidence and Religious Belief*, eds. Raymond VanArragon and Kelly James Clark (Oxford: Oxford University Press [2011]), 95-113
12. "Is Justified Belief Knowledge?: Critical Notice of Jonathan Sutton's *Without Justification*," *Philosophical Books* 51 (2010): 1-21
11. "The Fall of the *Mind* Argument and Some Lessons about Freedom" (with Donald Smith), in *Action, Ethics and Responsibility*, eds. Joseph Campbell, Michael O'Rourke, and David Shier (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press [2010]), 127-147
10. "Misleading Dispositions and the Value of Knowledge," *Journal of Philosophical Research* 35 (2010): 241-258
9. "How (Not) to Attack the Luck Argument," *Philosophical Explorations* 13 (2010): 157-166
8. "Does Luck Exclude Control?" *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 87 (2009): 499-504
7. "Warrant without Truth?" *Synthese* 162 (2008): 173-194
6. "Thinking about Luck," *Synthese* 158 (2007): 385-398
5. "Alfred Mele's Metaphysical Freedom?" (with Ted Warfield), *Philosophical Explorations* 10 (2007): 185-194
4. "Three Arguments against Foundationalism: Arbitrariness, Epistemic Regress, and Existential Support" (with Daniel Howard-Snyder), *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 36 (2006): 535-564
3. "Defending Klein on Closure and Skepticism," *Synthese* 151 (2006): 257-272
2. "Deliberation and Metaphysical Freedom" (with Ted Warfield), *Midwest Studies in Philosophy XXIX: Free Will and Moral Responsibility* (2005): 25-44
1. "On Making an Effort," *Philosophical Papers* 33 (2004): 11-21

BOOK REVIEWS AND OTHER INVITED CONTRIBUTIONS

6. "Review of Ishtiyaque Haji's *Luck's Mischief: Obligation and Blameworthiness on a Thread*," *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, 3 May 2016 (<http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/66653-lucks-mischief-obligation-and-blameworthiness-on-a-thread/>)

5. Entries on **luck**, **warrant**, and **the *Mind* argument**, in *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy* (3rd edition), ed. Robert Audi (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press [2015]): 615, 672, 1122
4. “Review of Ernest Sosa’s *Knowing Full Well*,” *The Philosophical Review* 122 (2013): 135-139
3. “Review of Walter Sinnott-Armstrong’s *Moral Skepticisms*,” *Religious Studies Review* 36 (2010): 54
2. “Review of Paul Moser’s *The Elusive God: Reorienting Religious Epistemology*” (with Jeff Cervantez), *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 84 (2010): 820-822
1. “Review of Walter Sinnott-Armstrong’s *Moral Skepticisms*,” *Faith and Philosophy* 27 (2010): 355-359

HONORS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

Faculty Development Leave, 2021

Chancellor’s Grant for Faculty Research, 2020

LATAM Bridges in the Epistemology of Religion Faculty Mentor (Templeton Foundation), 2020-2021
 ▪ Canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic

College of Arts and Sciences Lindsay Young Professorship, 2017-2019

Chancellor’s Grant for Faculty Research, 2017

Research Seminar Grant (with Jonathan Garthoff), University of Tennessee, 2016-17

College of Arts and Sciences Lindsay Young Professorship, 2015-2017

College of Arts and Sciences Lindsay Young Professorship, 2013-2015

Visiting Scholars Project Award, University of Tennessee, 2015

University of Tennessee Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship, 2013-14

Faculty Development Leave, 2014

Haines-Morris Grant (with Markus Kohl and David Palmer), University of Tennessee, 2013

College of Arts and Sciences Junior Faculty Fellow, 2011-2013

Chancellor’s Grant for Faculty Research, 2013

Visiting Scholars Project Award, University of Tennessee, 2012 (2x)

Nominee, College of Arts and Sciences Convocation Research Award, 2011

Nominee, College of Arts and Sciences Convocation Teaching Award, 2011

Nominee for NEH Summer Stipend Program, University of Tennessee, 2011

Summer Research Grant, University of Tennessee Philosophy Department, 2011

Chancellor’s Grant for Faculty Research, University of Tennessee, 2011

Nominee for NEH Summer Stipend Program, University of Tennessee, 2010

Symposium Project Grant, University of Tennessee, 2010-2011

Research Seminar Grant (with David Reidy), University of Tennessee, 2010-2011 (renewed 5x)

White Distinguished Teaching Award, University of Tennessee Philosophy Department, 2008-2009

Southwestern Philosophical Society President's Prize, November 2007

University of Notre Dame Edward Sorin Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2006-2007

Philosophy Department's Nominee for Alumni Association Graduate Research Award, 2005-2006

University of Notre Dame Graduate Teaching Fellowship, 2005-2006

Passed Dissertation Defense with Highest Distinction, December 2005

University of Notre Dame Philosophy Department Dissertation Year Fellowship, 2005

Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2004-2005

Travel Stipend, University of Rochester Graduate Conference in Epistemology, 2004

Passed Oral Examination in Metaphysics with Distinction, 2003

Passed Second Year Research Paper Requirement with Distinction, 2003

Passed Written Comprehensive Examination in History of Philosophy with Distinction, 2002

Philip Bashor Outstanding Graduate Student Award, Department of Philosophy, University of Arkansas, 1998-1999

REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

17. "Does Knowledge Secure Warrant to Assert?"
 - Central States Philosophical Association Meeting, October 2009
16. "Two Mistakes about Epistemic Propriety"
 - International Conference on Epistemic Goodness, University of Oklahoma, March 2009
15. "Does Luck Exclude Control?"
 - Central States Philosophical Association Meeting, September 2008
 - Southwest Philosophical Society, November 2008
 - Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2009
14. "Reliability and Warranted Assertion"
 - Southwest Philosophical Society, November 2007
 - Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2008
13. "Assertion, Knowledge, and Justification"
 - Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2007

12. "Luck and Standard Libertarianism"
 - Southwest Philosophical Society, November 2006
 - Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2007
11. "Williamson's Evidence"
 - Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2006
10. "The Fall of the *Mind* Argument and Some Lessons about Freedom" (with Donald Smith)
 - Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference (Topic: Action, Ethics, & Responsibility), April 2006
9. "A Principled Argument for Agency Theory" (with Donald Smith)
 - Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, March 2005
8. "Warrant, Luck, and Truth"
 - University of Rochester Graduate Conference in Epistemology, September 2004
 - Central States Philosophical Association Meeting, October 2004
7. "Defending Klein on Closure and Skepticism"
 - Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2004
6. "Causal Responsibility and Two Kinds of Control"
 - Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2002
5. "Reductivism is Impossible" (with Donald Smith)
 - Society of Christian Philosophers Meeting, Indiana University, September 2002
4. "Causal Deviance and Intentional Action"
 - Society for Student Philosophers, Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, March 2002
3. "Treating the 'Lack of Control' Objection to Kane's Account of Free Agency"
 - Society of Christian Philosophers Eastern Regional Meeting, University of South Carolina, May 2000
2. "Do Kanean Agents Exercise Full Control over Their Undetermined Free Choices?"
 - Arkansas Philosophical Association Meeting, University of Arkansas, October 2000
1. "On Reformed Epistemology and the Evidentialist Objection to Belief in God"
 - Arkansas Philosophical Association Meeting, University of Arkansas, October 1998

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

19. "Comments on Alfred Mele's *Aspects of Agency*"
 - Society for Philosophy of Agency, Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, January 2018 (in absentia due to inclement weather, read by another session participant)
18. "Three Approaches to Gettiered Belief"
 - University of Notre Dame, Midwest Epistemology Workshop, November 2013
17. "Conciliationism and Uniqueness" (with Nathan Ballantyne)
 - Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, February 2012

16. "On Goldberg on the Ethics of Assertion and Belief"
 - University of North Florida, Kline Symposium on the Ethics of Belief, October 2011
15. "Stump on the Nature of Atonement"
 - University of Notre Dame, Alvin Plantinga Retirement Celebration Conference, May 2010
14. "Problems for Foley's Accounts of Rational Belief and Responsible Belief" (with Matt Deaton)
 - Baylor University Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference, February 2010
13. "Ballantyne on Anti-Luck Epistemology, Pragmatic Encroachment, and the Value of True Belief"
 - Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, February 2010
12. "Autonomy from Accountability from Attribution?"
 - Southwest Philosophical Society, November 2009
11. "On Rizzieri on Williamson on Knowledge and Evidence"
 - Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, March 2008
10. "Warrant without Truth?"
 - University of Tennessee, Philosophy Department Colloquium, February 2007
9. "How Seriously Can God Deliberate?"
 - University of Notre Dame, Philosophy Department Colloquium, January 2007
 - University of Oklahoma, Philosophy Department Colloquium, January 2007
8. "Luck and Standard Libertarianism"
 - Southern Methodist University, Philosophy Department Colloquium, January 2007
7. "Defending Doxastic Evidence Pluralism"
 - Georgia State University, Philosophy Department Colloquium, January 2006
6. "On Almeida on Atheistic Arguments from Improvability"
 - Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2005
5. "On Howard-Snyder on Klein on Foundationalism"
 - Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference, April 2004
4. "On Long on Justification-Skepticism, Strong Truth-Conduciveness, and Epistemic Assurance"
 - Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference, April 2004
3. "On de Almeida on Inferential Knowledge from Falsehoods"
 - Central States Philosophical Association, October 2003
2. "On Trogon on Property Dualism, Mental Causation, and Counterfactuals"
 - Brown University Graduate Conference in Philosophy, February 2003
1. "On Smith on Externalism, Authoritative Self-Knowledge, and Adaptation to Slow-Switching"
 - University of Rochester Graduate Conference in Epistemology, November 2001

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

GRADUATE

Epistemic Dimensions of Agency

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2026

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2025
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2024
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2023
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2022
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2021 (departmental proseminar)
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2019
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2016

Luck, Knowledge, and Freedom

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2014

Contemporary Virtue Epistemology

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2012 (departmental superseminar)

Evidence, Justification, and Skepticism

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2011 (departmental proseminar)

The Ethics of Belief

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2010 (departmental proseminar)

Moral Luck

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2009 (departmental proseminar)

Recent Work in Moral and Religious Epistemology

- University of Tennessee, Spring 2009

Advanced Survey of Epistemology

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2017
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2015
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2011
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2008

Free Will and Moral Responsibility

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2008 (departmental proseminar)

UNDERGRADUATE

Epistemology

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2026
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2026
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2025
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2025
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2024
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2024
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2023
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2023
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2022
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2021
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2018
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2017
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2016
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2015
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2013
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2012
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2010

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2008
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2007

Philosophy of Action

- University of Tennessee, Spring 2025

Freedom, Responsibility, and Determinism

- University of Tennessee, Spring 2009
- University of Notre Dame, Spring 2007
- University of Notre Dame, Fall 2006
- University of Notre Dame, Spring 2006

Philosophy of Religion

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2009

Honors Introduction to Philosophy

- University of Tennessee, Spring 2026
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2024
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2023
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2022
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2022
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2020 (online)
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2020 (x2)
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2019 (x2)
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2018 (x2)
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2016
- University of Tennessee, Fall 2014
- University of Tennessee, Spring 2008

Introduction to Philosophy

- University of Tennessee, Fall 2007
- University of Notre Dame, Fall 2006
- University of Arkansas, Summer 1999-Spring 2000 (x5)

First-Year Composition (Theme: Liberty and Justice)

- University of Notre Dame, Fall 2005

Thinking and Reasoning

- Indiana University-South Bend, Fall 2004

Introduction to Logic

- University of Arkansas, Fall 1998-Spring 1999 (x4)

SERVICE

Profession at large

- Program Committee, Central Division of the American Philosophical Association (2009)
- Referee for Oxford, Blackwell, Routledge, Palgrave, Polity, *Journal of Philosophy*, *Ethics*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Mind*, *Nous*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Analysis*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Synthese*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Religion*, *Episteme*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Theoria*, *Analytic Philosophy*, *Faith and Philosophy*, *dialectica*, *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *Philosophical Explorations*, *Philosophical Papers*, *Kantian Review*, *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*

University of Tennessee (bold indicates departmental leadership role; '*' indicates college-level service)

- **Associate Head** (2012-20)
- **Director of Undergraduate Studies** (2010-13, 2014-15)
- Head's Advisory Committee (2010-20)
- Graduate Committee (2007-11, 2024-)
- Member, Philosophy Head Search Committee (2024-25)*
- Member, New Department Head Exploratory Task Force (2024)*
- Lecturer Affairs Committee (2022-2024)
- ELMS Oral Exam Committee (2019-; Chair: 2021-22)
- Chair, History of Philosophy Job Search Committee (2021-22)
- Promotion Review Committee (2021-22; chair of one subcommittee, member of another)
- General Education Arts and Humanities Committee (2012-22)*
- Review of Instruction Committee (2018-20, 2021-22; Chair: 2018-20)
- ELMS Portfolio Paper Committee (2007-13, 2015-22; Chair: 2011-12, 2021-22)
- Undergraduate Committee (2010-13, 2014-16, 2017-19)
- "Elements" Liaison (2017-20, 2021-22)
- Lecturer Retention Review Committee (2016-20)
- Lecturer Teaching Evaluation Committee (2016-18)
- Graduate Research Seminar Coordinator (2016-18)
- Member, Philosophy Head Search Committee (2016-17)*
- Lead organizer, Departmental Research Seminar ("Freedom from All Sides: Philosophical Issues") (2010-16)
- Departmental Liaison to the Philosophy Club (2010-13, 2014-15)
- Lead organizer (with Avery Archer, Markus Kohl, and David Palmer), Tennessee Value & Agency Conference (2015)
- Departmental Representative, Sophomore Step-Up Event (2015)*
- Graduate Advisor (2014-)
- Departmental Representative, TBR Philosophy Tennessee Transfer Pathways Team (2014)*
- Steering Committee, "Art, Science, and Human Knowledge" Connections Package (2014-)*
- Lead organizer (with Markus Kohl and David Palmer), Tennessee Value & Agency Conference (2013)
- Departmental Representative, Chancellor's Scholars Campus Visit Event (2013)*
- Humanities Curriculum Committee (2012-13)*
- Organizer/Instructor, Departmental Superseminar, "Contemporary Virtue Epistemology" (Fall 2012)
- Member, History of Modern Search Committee (2011-12)
- Faculty Mentor (2011-)
- Organizer, Epistemic Norms and Values Symposium (2011)
- Chair, Metaphysics/Mind Job Search Committee (2010-11)
- Member, Ethics Job Search Committee (2010-11)
- Member, Social/Political Job Search Committee (2010-11)
- Committee on Lecturers (2010-11)
- Placement Coordinator (2008-10)
- Undergraduate Advisor (2008-20)
- Committee on Visiting Speakers (2007-11)
- Library Representative (2007-12)
- Departmental Liaison to College's Web Designer (2007-10)

University of Notre Dame

- Departmental Class Representative, 2004-2006

Community

- *Judge*, University of Tennessee High School Ethics Bowl (2012, 2013)