

DAVID VESSEY

Campus Address

Department of Philosophy
Grand Valley State University
Allendale, MI, 49401-9403
vesseyd@gvsu.edu

Current Address

1469 Byron Ave, SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
davevessey@yahoo.com

POSITIONS HELD

2017- Full Professor, Department of Philosophy, Grand Valley State University
2011-17 Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, Grand Valley State University
2012-13 Visiting Scholar, Department of Philosophy, University of Minnesota
2008-11 Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Grand Valley State University
2004-08 Lecturer, Collegiate Division of the Humanities, University of Chicago
2005-07 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Northeastern Illinois University
2004-05 Visiting Scholar, Department of Philosophy, University of Chicago
2003-04 Visiting Scholar, Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame
2002-04 Associate Professor (tenured), Department of Philosophy and Religion, Beloit College
Spring 2003 Visiting Scholar and Instructor, Department of Philosophy, University of Oregon
1996-2002 Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religion Beloit College
Fall 1993 Visiting Instructor, Philosophy Department, St. Olaf College

EDUCATION

1996 Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Notre Dame
1993 M.A., Philosophy, University of Notre Dame
1989 B.A., Magna Cum Laude, St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN
Majors: Mathematics and Philosophy (both with departmental distinction)
Phi Beta Kappa

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

19th and 20th Century Continental Philosophy

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

History of Philosophy, Aesthetics, American Philosophy, Ethics, Logic.

TEACHING HONORS

2010 "Last Lecture," chosen by the Student Senate, Grand Valley State University
2003 Beloit Rotary Club/Beloit Chamber of Commerce Teaching Award
2002 Beloit College, Underkofler Teacher of the Year Award for Excellence in Teaching

COURSES TAUGHT

100 Level

Formal Logic
Critical Thinking
Introduction to Philosophy
Ethics
Interdisciplinary Seminar: Creating a Self
Interdisciplinary Seminar: Individuation and Enculturation in Education
Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities, I (Ancient Greece)
Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities, II (Early Modern Europe)

200 Level

Ancient Philosophy
Medieval Philosophy
Modern Philosophy
19th Century Philosophy
20th Century Philosophy
Philosophy of Science
Philosophy of Business and Work
Aesthetics/Philosophy of Art
Existentialism
Phenomenology and Hermeneutics
Postmodern Philosophical Issues

300 Level

Ancient Great Philosophers
Medieval Great Philosophers: Augustine
Late Modern Great Philosophers: Hegel, Marx, & Kierkegaard
Late Modern Great Philosophers: Darwin and his Philosophical Legacy
Late Modern Philosophers: Kant's 19th Century Legacy
Recent Great Philosophers: 1959
Recent Great Philosophers: Merleau-Ponty
Recent Great Philosophers: Foucault
20th Century Continental
American Philosophy
Human Nature
Philosophy of Death and Dying
Majors Capstone
Seminar: Foucault
Seminar: Heidegger/Gadamer
Seminar: Recent Kantian Ethics

Graduate

Gadamer Graduate Seminar

Independent Projects Directed (listed alphabetically)

Aesthetics; Anscombe/Foot/Midgley/Murdoch; Simone de Beauvoir; Camus; Contemporary Analytic Metaphysics; Epistemology and Post-Modernism; Feminist Readings of Nietzsche; Habermas and Gadamer; Hume's Ethics; Judith Butler's Conception of Agency; Kant's Theory of Perception; Kierkegaard; Kierkegaard and Phenomenology; Logic and Legal Analysis; Nietzsche and Darwin; Phenomenology; Philosophy of Biology; Philosophy of Education; Philosophy of History; Philosophy of Inter-Personal Relations; Philosophy of Poetry; Philosophy of Psychology; Queer Theory; Schopenhauer; Zen Buddhism.

Other Teaching:

Humans as Self-Interpreting Animals, Holden Village
William James: Living with Uncertainty, Society for Learning Unlimited (Beloit Elderhostel)
Emerson's American Ideal, Newberry Library, Chicago
Principles of Mathematical Thought, Mathematics Department, St. Olaf College
English Instructor, Karl Marx University, Budapest, Hungary.

PUBLICATIONS

- "Robert Dostal, Hans-Georg Gadamer, and the Challenge of Phenomenology" *Existenz* 18/2 (2024), 16-20.
- "Aquinas on the Authority of a Friend vs. the Authority of a Teacher" forthcoming in *Subject, Identity, Care—Educational (Dis)closures* ed. Kamila Drapalo & Andrej Wiercinski (Paderborn: Brill, 2024) 219-232.
- "On Robert Dostal's *Gadamer's Hermeneutics: Between Phenomenology and Dialectic*" *Research in Phenomenology* (2023)
- "Phenomenology's Essential Role in the Hermeneutic Tradition" in *Truth and Method: A Polyphonic Commentary* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2022)
- "Gadamer on Tradition" in *The Gadamerian Mind* (Routledge, 2021)
- "Collapsing Life and Art" in *Imagining Dewey: Artful Works and Dialogue about Art as Experience* (Brill, 2018)
- "Gadamer, Hans-Georg" in *The Encyclopedia of the Philosophy of Religion* (London, Wiley-Blackwell: 2018)
- "Gadamer, *Lebensphilosophie*, and Bringing a Text to Life" *Études Phénoménologiques – Phenomenological Studies* (Vol.2, 2018)
- "Medieval Hermeneutics" *Blackwell Companion to Hermeneutics*, eds. Niall Keane and Chris Lawn (London: Blackwell, 2015)
- "Dialogue, Goodwill, and Community" *Blackwell Companion to Hermeneutics*, eds. Niall Keane and Chris Lawn (London: Blackwell, 2015)
- "Hermeneutics and Pragmatism" *Blackwell Companion to Hermeneutics*, eds. Niall Keane and Chris Lawn (London: Blackwell, 2015)
- "The Representation of Evil in Art" the *Encyclopedia of Evil, Vol 4: Post-1950*, ed. Charles Taliaferro (London: Acumen Publishing, 2014)
- "Philosophical Hermeneutics and the *Liber Naturae*" *Philosophy Today* 58/1 (2014): 85–95.
- "Gadamer's Logic of Question and Answer and the Difference between the History of Philosophy and the History of Ideas" *Journal of the Philosophy of History*, 8 (2014) 360–379
- "The Role of the Concept 'Person' in Gadamer's Philosophical Hermeneutics" *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, 88/1 (2014), 117-137
- "Gadamer and Davidson on Language and Thought" *Philosophy Compass*, 7/12 (2012): 33-42
- "Heidegger's Existential Domestication of Luther" in *The Devil's Whore: Reason and Philosophy in the Lutheran Tradition*, edited by Jennifer Dragseth (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2011), 131-142

PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

- “Deriving Gadamer’s Account of Intersubjectivity from His Account of Dialogue,” in *Gadamer’s Hermeneutics and the Art of Conversation*, edited by Andre Wiercinski (Hermeneutic Press, 2011).
- “Gadamer, Augustine, Aquinas, and Hermeneutic Universality” *Philosophy Today* 55, no. 2 (2011): 158-65.
- “Ricoeur and Gadamer on Recognition” in *Gadamer and Ricoeur: Critical Horizons for Contemporary Hermeneutics*, edited by Jay Mootz and George Taylor (Continuum, 2011), 142-155.
- “Davidson, Gadamer, Incommensurability, and the Third Dogma of Empiricism” in *Dialogues with Davidson*, edited by Jeff Malpas (Boston: MIT Press, 2011), 241-58.
- “Hans-Georg Gadamer and the Philosophy of Religion” *Philosophy Compass*, 5/8 (2010), 645-55.
- “William James,” “Pragmatism,” “Edmund Husserl,” Emmanuel Levinas,” and “Jacques Maritain,” in *A Dictionary of Philosophy of Religion*, edited by C. Taliaferro and E. Marty (Continuum, 2010)
- “Dewey, Gadamer, and the Status of Poetry Among the Arts,” *John Dewey and Continental Philosophy*, edited by Paul Fairfield (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 2010), 161-73.
- “Gadamer and the Fusion of Horizons” *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, 17/4 (2009), 531-42
- “The Method of Question and Answer as a Principle of Charity in Gadamer’s Hermeneutics” *Recherches en Philosophie* (University of Tabriz, Iran) 51:203 (2009), 1-15.
- Translation (with Chris Blaukamp) of Hans-Georg Gadamer’s “Friendship and Solidarity,” *Research in Phenomenology*, 39/1 (2009), 3-12.
- “Relating Levinas and Gadamer through Heidegger” *Levinas Studies* 4 (2008).
- “Hermeneutics,” in *Encyclopedia of American Philosophy* (New York: Routledge, 2008), 364-366.
- “The Meaning of a Deathless Life” in *Battlestar Galactica and Philosophy* (Chicago: Open Court, 2008), 289-300.
- “Who Was Gadamer’s Husserl?” in *The New Yearbook of Phenomenology and Phenomenological Philosophy VII* (2007), 1-23.
- “Gadamer’s Hermeneutic Contribution to a Theory of Time-Consciousness,” *Indo-Pacific Journal of Phenomenology* 7:2 (2007).
- “Language as Encoding Thought vs. Language as Medium of Thought: On the Question of J. G. Fichte’s Influence on Wilhelm von Humboldt,” *Idealistic Studies* 36:3 (2007), 219-234.
- “The Role of Language in Object Transcendence: A Gadamerian Response to Dreyfus and McDowell,” *Philosophy Today* (Supplement 2007), 60-69.
- “Engaging Across Traditions: Royce and Gadamer on Interpretation,” in *Issues in Interpretation Theory*, edited by Pol Vandeveld (Milwaukee: Marquette University Press, 2006), 119-136.
- Introduction to and translation (with Chris Blauwkamp) of Hans-Georg Gadamer’s “The Incapacity of Conversation,” *Continental Philosophy Review* 39:4 (2006).

PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

- “Philosophical Hermeneutics,” in *The Blackwell Companion to Pragmatism*, edited by Joseph Margolis and John Shook (Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2006).
- “Gadamer’s Theory of Friendship as an Alternative to Intersubjectivity,” *Philosophy Today* 49, no. 5 (2005): 61–67.
- “Reducing Religion to Theology: On Gracia on the Interpretation of Revealed Texts,” *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 78, no. 3 (Summer 2004).
- “Philosophy in Germany at the Time of the Expressionists,” exhibition catalog, *The Will to Create: Expressionism in Germany* (Beloit College, 2001).
- “Hey-diddily-ho, Neighboreenos: Ned Flanders and Neighborly Love” in *The Simpsons and Philosophy*, edited by William Irwin (Chicago: Open Court Press, 2001). Translated into Italian, Japanese, Korean, Turkish, German, Russian, Hebrew, Portuguese, and Spanish.
- Translation (with Peter Adamson) of Hans-Georg Gadamer’s “Subjectivity and Intersubjectivity, Subject and Person,” *Continental Philosophy Review* 33 (2000): 275–87.
- “Gadamer and the Body Across Dialogical Contexts,” *Philosophy Today* 44, no. 5 (2000): 70–77.
- “The Polysemy of Otherness: On Ricoeur’s *Oneself as Another*” in *Arobase* 4, nos.1–2 (Fall 2000). Reprinted in *Ipseity and Alterity: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Intersubjectivity*, ed. Shaun Gallagher (Rouen: Presses Universitaires de Rouen, 2002).
- “The Body as *Anstoss* in Sartre’s Account of Constitution” in *The Proceedings of the Twentieth World Congress of Philosophy*, <http://www.bu.edu/wcp/Papers/Cont/ContVess.htm> (2000).
- “Foucault and Phenomenology” (with Stephen H. Watson) in *The Encyclopedia of Phenomenology*, edited by Lester Embree (Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1996).
- “The Euler Phi- Function Generalized for Solutions to the n-Queens Problem,” *Undergraduate Journal of Mathematics* 22, no. 2 (Sept. 1990).

BOOK REVIEWS

- Review of Gianni Vattimo’s *Of Reality* in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*
- Review of Katherine Withy’s *Heidegger on Being Uncanny* the *Journal of the History of Philosophy*
- Review of John Arthos’s *The Inner Word in Gadamer’s Hermeneutics* in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (<http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=18105>).
- Review Article of Nicholas Davey’s *Unquiet Understanding: Gadamer’s Philosophical Hermeneutics* in *Research in Phenomenology* 38 (2008): 293-313.
- Review Article of Paul Fairfield’s *Theorizing Praxis: Studies in Hermeneutical Pragmatism* in *Contemporary Pragmatism* Vol. 3, No. 2 (Dec. 2006)
- Review of Gabriel Marcel’s *La Métaphysique de Royce* in the *Newsletter of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy* (Winter, 2006)
- Review of Hans-Georg Gadamer’s *The Beginning of Knowledge* in *Philosophy in Review* 23 (August 2003).
- Review of Mitchell Aboulafia’s *G. H. Mead and Continental Philosophy* in *The Journal of Speculative Philosophy* 16, no. 4 (2002).

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- “Hermeneutics’ Neglected Traditions” Invited paper to be giving at the 2023 meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, University of Calgary.
- “Hermeneutics and Giving Birth of What is Immortal through the Beautiful” Canadian Hermeneutics Institute, June 2023
- “Hermeneutics and Hermeneutical Injustice” Three Keynote Addresses, Canadian Hermeneutics Institute, Zoom, June 2022
- “Philosophical Hermeneutics and the Tradition of Interpretation in Homiletics” 2018 meeting of the American Catholic Philosophical Association, San Diego, Nov. 2018
- “Dewey, Marcuse, and Aesthetic *Erlebnis*” 2018 Pacific Division APA, San Diego, March 2018
- “Hermeneutics’ Distinctive Approach to Making History Philosophical” 2017 Central Division APA, Kansas City, March 2017
- “Gadamer, MacIntyre, *Phronesis*, and the Practice of Philosophical Education” 2015 meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Philadelphia, September 2015
- "Descartes and The Allegory of Sight" 2015 meeting of the Association of Core Texts and Courses, Plymouth, MA.
- "Deweyan Experience, Hermeneutic Experience, and Experiential Education," 2105 meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Grand Rapids, MI
- “Gadamer’s Interpretive Practice” 2014 Meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Roanoke, VA, September 2014.
- “Philosophical Hermeneutics and the *Liber Naturae*” Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Eugene, OR, October, 2013.
- "Engaging the Tradition of Reading Nature as a Text" 2013 Meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Chicago, IL, September 2013
- “Gadamer’s and MacIntyre’s Reviews of Each Other’s Work” 2013 meeting of the International Society for MacIntyrean Enquiry, Grand Rapids, MI, August 2013.
- “The Telling Absence of Moderation in Foucault’s Discussion of *Parrhesia*” Pacific Division Meeting of the APA, March 2013
- “What we can Learn from Reading Royce’s Interpretations of Fichte” SAAP session at the Pacific Division Meeting of the APA, March 2013
- “Shared Linguistic Responsiveness to Phenomena: Three Lessons on Language from Gadamer's Later Essays” presented at the Workshop on Phenomenology, Perception and Normativity, Univ. Pittsburgh, June, 2011.
- “Pedagogical Implications of Gadamer's 'Logic of Question and Answer’” presented at “*Truth and Method* Fifty Years After: Gadamer's Influence on the Humanities,” University of Leiden, August, 2010.
- “Reading Pippin’s Hegel Back into the 19th Century Context” presented at a 2010 conference in honor of Robert Pippin’s *Hegel’s Practical Philosophy*, Kalamazoo, MI.
- “Moderate and Immoderate Candor: Foucault's *Parrhesia* without *Sophrosyne*,” 2009 meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Arlington, VA

CONFERENCE PAPERS (CONTINUED)

- “The Medieval Roots for Gadamer’s Claim for Hermeneutic Universality,” 2009 meeting of the Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy, London, ON.
- “On John Arthos’ *The Inner Word in Gadamer’s Hermeneutics*,” 2009 meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Wichita, KS.
- “Gadamer and the Recognition of Persons in Dialogue,” 2009 Boston College Workshop on Contemporary Philosophy: On Gadamer, Boston, MA.
- “Gadamer, Augustine, and the Universality of Hermeneutics: Against the Standard interpretation,” 2008 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Pittsburgh.
- “The Role of the Concept ‘Person’ in Gadamer’s Hermeneutics,” 2008 North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Chicago.
- “On a Recent Husserlian Criticism of Gadamer’s Account of the Subject,” main program, 2008 Central Division APA, Chicago, IL
- “Gadamer, Davidson, Incommensurability, and the Third Dogma of Empiricism” Invited paper, main session of the 2007 Eastern Division APA.
- “Can there be Evangelical Dialogue?” Center for Ethics and Culture, University of Notre Dame, 2007.
- “On Bernet’s Criticism of Gadamer’s Subject at Play,” 2007 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Chicago, IL.
- “The Uniqueness of Poetry,” 2007 Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Columbia, SC.
- “Language and the Transcendence of Objects: A Gadamerian Reply to Dreyfus and McDowell,” 2006 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Philadelphia.
- “Who Was Gadamer’s Husserl?” 2006 North American Society of Philosophical Hermeneutics, Boston.
- “Disconnecting Intersubjectivity and Ethics,” Main program, 2006 Central APA, Chicago.
- “Gadamer on Heidegger on Authentic Relations to Others,” Main program, 2005 Central APA, Chicago.
- “Alterity and Faith in Gadamer’s Hermeneutics,” 2005 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Salt Lake City.
- “Gadamer’s Theory of Horizons,” Main program, 2005 Pacific APA, San Francisco.
- “Dewey and Gadamer on Art,” SAAP session at the 2005 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Salt Lake City.
- “Gadamer in Dialogue with American Philosophy,” 2005 Summer Institute in American Philosophy, University of Oregon.
- “Shiva the Destroyer v. Scotland Yard: Unique Problems in Interpreting Religious Art,” Center for Ethics and Culture, University of Notre Dame, November 2004.
- “Gadamer’s Theory of Friendship as Intersubjectivity,” 2004 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Memphis.
- “Gadamer’s Theory of Time,” 21st World Congress of Philosophy, August 2003, Istanbul.
- “Others, Thous, Friends: On Gadamer’s Theory of Intersubjectivity,” North American Society for Social Philosophy at the 2003 Pacific APA, San Francisco.

CONFERENCE PAPERS (CONTINUED)

- “Gadamer and the Body Across Dialogical Contexts,” 2002 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, State College, PA.
- “Time and the Other Otherwise than Levinas,” Marquette University, November 2001.
- “On Jorge Gracia’s *How Can We Know What God Means?*” Author Meets Critics Session at the American Catholic Philosophical Association, November 2001, Albany, NY.
- “Gadamer and the Principle of Charity,” 1999 Wisconsin Philosophical Association, Green Bay, WI.
- “On the Incompleteness of George Herbert Mead’s Theory of the Social Self as an Account of Intersubjectivity: Re-reading Henrich after Habermas,” 1998 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Denver.
- “The Body as *Anstoss* in Sartre’s Account of Constitution,” 20th World Congress of Philosophy, August 1998, Boston.
- “Language as Encoding Thought vs. Language as Medium of Thought: On the Question of J. G. Fichte’s Influence on Wilhelm von Humboldt,” 1998 Wisconsin Philosophical Association, Mequon, WI.
- “G. H. Mead and Dieter Henrich on Self-Consciousness,” Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, March 1998, Milwaukee, WI.
- “Gadamer’s Expressive Dialogism,” 1997 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Lexington, KY.
- “Intersubjectivity and Time-Consciousness: Some Historical Philosophical Connections,” 1995 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Chicago.
- “Parsing Hermeneutics,” 1992 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Boston.

PROFESSIONAL TALKS GIVEN

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| Fall 2024 | Gadamer’s “Friendship and Solidarity”, University of Dallas |
| Fall 2019 | “Collapsing Life and Art,” North Eastern Illinois University |
| Fall 2019 | “Philosophizing as Listening to the Past,” Wheaton College. |
| Winter 2019 | “The Line Between Art and Life: Dewey, the Philosophers of Life, and the Happenings Movement”, Grand Valley State University. |
| Winter 2013 | “Reading Nature on the Model of Reading a Book,” Grand Valley State University |
| Fall 2013 | “The History of Philosophy and the History of Ideas,” Grand Valley State University. |
| Winter 2013 | “The History of Philosophy as Philosophy,” St. Olaf College |
| Winter 2013 | “Hermeneutics and Reading the Book of Nature” University of Minnesota |
| Fall 2012 | “The Importance of Moderation in Ancient Accounts of Frank Speech,” Univ. Minnesota |
| Winter 2009 | “Teaching Plato’s <i>Crito</i> from Crito’s Perspective,” Grand Valley State University, MI |
| Fall 2009 | “Moderate and Immoderate Candor: Foucault’s <i>Parrhesia</i> without <i>Sophrosyne</i> ” GVSU |
| Fall 2007 | “Gadamer, Davidson and the Third Dogma of Empiricism,” Kent State, OH |
| Spring 2007 | “Gadamer and Davidson on Charity,” St. Xavier University, IL |

- Spring 2006 “Charitable vs. Critical Interpretations,” Linfield College, OR
- Winter 2006 “Authenticity—Others—Death,” Colby College, ME
- Winter 2005 “Modern Others and Ancient Friends,” Bennington College, VT
- Winter 2005 “On Some Feminist Interpretations of Gadamer,” Luther College, IA
- Spring 2004 “Critical Reading,” College of Wooster, Wooster, OH
- Spring 2004 “Openness in and as Dialogue,” Earlham College, Richmond, IN
- Fall 2001 “Interpreting Sacred Texts,” Beloit College Philosophy Colloquium
- Spring 2001 “Philosophia Bios Kuberbetes,” Presidential Address, Phi Beta Kappa, Beloit College
- Fall 2000 “Descartes’ ‘Errors’,” Faculty Forum, Beloit College, Fall 2000
- Fall 2000 “Plato, Poetry, and Politics,” Faculty Homecoming Lecture, Beloit College, Fall 2000
- Fall 2000 “Reading Book X of the *Republic*,” Beloit College Philosophy Colloquium
- Fall 2000 “Descartes Like You Have Never Seen Him Before,” Beloit College Philosophy Colloquium
- Spring 1999 “The Simpsons and the Problem of Paternalism,” Beloit College Philosophy Colloquium
- Fall 1998 “H. G. Gadamer and the Principle of Charity,” Beloit Faculty Brown Bag Lunch Series
- Fall 1998 “Ascribing Rationality,” Beloit College Philosophy Colloquium
- Spring 1997 “Language and Intersubjectivity in Gadamer’s Philosophical Hermeneutics,” Beloit College Philosophy Colloquium
- Fall 1997 “Davidson’s ‘On the Very Idea of a Conceptual Scheme’,” Beloit College Colloquium
- Spring 1996 “Phenomenology: Rigor without Proof?” St. Olaf College
- Fall 1993 “Transcendental Meditations on Epistemic Obligations: Hegel, Merleau-Ponty, and Habermas,” St. Olaf College

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- Commentator, Lorenzo Simpson’s *Hermeneutics and Critique*, 2021 Meeting of NASPH, Online
- Chair, “The Relevance of Jazz for Aesthetics,” 2021 Central Division APA, Online
- Chair, “Gadamerian Hermeneutics of Pain and World-Making,” 2018 Meeting of SPEP, State College, PA
- Chair, “Are Humean Critics Real and Can We Find Them Amongst Us?” 2018 Central Division APA, Chicago, IL.
- Chair, “Blanchot, Heidegger, and Gadamer” 2017 Meeting of SPEP, Memphis, TN.
- Chair, “Phenomenology” 2016 meeting of the Eastern Division APA, Washington, DC
- Chair, “Left Thatcherism” 2015 Meeting of SPEP, Atlanta, GA

- Commentator, "Contaminating the Transcendental: Towards a Phenomenological Naturalism," 2014 Eastern Division APA, Philadelphia, PA
- Commentator, "Why Husserl Never Became an Idealist," 2012 Central Division APA, Chicago, IL.
- Chair, "Thing, Object, Sense", 2011 Meeting of the NASPH, Boston, MA
- Commentator, "How to Speak With the Dead: Brandom and Gadamer on the Dialogical Relation Between Past and Present," 2011 Meeting Central Division APA, Minneapolis, MN.
- Chair, "The Global Future of Hermeneutics" NASPH meeting the 2010 meeting of SPEP, Montreal, 2010.
- Commentator, "Gadamer and Animals," NASPH 2010 Annual Meeting, Seattle WA.
- Chair, "Kierkegaard and Contemporary Continental Philosophy", International Kierkegaard Conference, Northfield, MN, 2010
- Chair, "Gadamer and Brandom," NASPH meeting the 2008 meeting of SPEP, Pittsburgh, 2008.
- Chair, "Naturalism," 2008 meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, East Lansing, MI
- Chair, "Articulation as the Condition for Meaning in Husserl," 2007 Central Division APA, Chicago.
- Chair, "William James's Philosophy of Religion," William James Society, 2006 Central APA, Chicago.
- Chair, "Rorty's Hope for Philosophy," 2006 Pacific APA, Portland, OR.
- Commentator, "From Trauma to Existence: Kierkegaard's Suffering as Source and Focus of His Philosophy," Sixth International Kierkegaard Conference, June 2005, St. Olaf College.
- Chair, "Peirce's Epistemology and Metaphysics," SAAP Session at the 2005 Central APA, Chicago.
- Chair, "Gadamer and Thoughtfulness," 2002 Pacific APA, Seattle.
- Chair, "Time and the Work of Art: Reconsiderations of Heidegger's Reading of the Will to Power," 2002 Pacific APA, Seattle.
- Chair, "The Use and Abuse of Style: Heidegger Confronts Aristotle on Poetry and Philosophy," 2002 Pacific APA, Seattle.
- Chair, "Imagination in Pragmatist Ethics," 2001 Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Las Vegas.
- Chair, "Pragmatism and Tragedy: A Second Look," 2001 Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Las Vegas.
- Chair, "Communication and Rational Justification: A Phenomenological Stance," 2000 Meeting of the Wisconsin Philosophical Association, Stevens Point, WI.
- Chair, "Michel Foucault and Latin American Critical Theory," 1999 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Eugene, OR.
- Commentator, "The Role of Intentions in the Production of Artifacts," 1999 Central APA, New Orleans.
- Chair, "Husserl's Attitude Problem: Some Remarks on Intersubjectivity," 1999 Central APA, New Orleans.

Commentator, "On Power and Agency in Judith Butler's Work," 1998 Pacific APA, Los Angeles.

Chair, "The Bodily Inauguration of the *Nomos*: The Convention of Justice in Hume's Ethics," 1997 Central APA, Pittsburgh.

Chair, "The Ethics of Death," 1996 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Washington, D.C.

Commentator, "Phenomenology and the Idea of Science," Minnesota Philosophical Society, October 1993, St. Cloud, MN.

WORK IN PROGRESS:

Hermeneutics and Hermeneutical Injustice for Palgrave Pivot

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

2024 Meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, GVSU, 2024

2023 Meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Calgary, 2023

2022 Meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Dallas, 2022

2021 Meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Virtual, September 2020

2020 Meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Virtual, September 2020

2013 Meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Chicago, September 2013.

2012 Meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Riverside, September 2012.

2011 Meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Boston, September 2011.

2008 Meeting of the North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics, Chicago, September 2008.

Revisioning the Aesthetic: Philosophy of Art after the Twentieth Century, Beloit College, Feb. 19, 1999.

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2003–04 Sabbatical Supporting Research Grant, Beloit College

Fall 1998 Junior Faculty Research Grant, Beloit College

1994–95 Fulbright Research Fellowship, Husserl Archives, University of Leuven, Belgium

1994–95 Belgian-American Educational Foundation Research Fellowship (Honorary)

Spring 1994 Dissertation Research Fellowship, University of Notre Dame

1990–96 Graduate Assistantship, University of Notre Dame

MEMBERSHIPS

North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics

American Philosophical Association

Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy

Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy

INSTITUTES ATTENDED

Summer 2007 Collegium Phaenomenologicum, Umbria, Italy

2002–05; 2009 Summer Institute in American Philosophy, University of Oregon

1998–2002 Summer Institute in American Philosophy, University of Vermont

REVIEWER FOR:

NEH, Oxford University Press, Broadview Press, University of Ohio Press, Rowan and Littlefield, Wadsworth, *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophy Today*, *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Research in Phenomenology*, *Continental Philosophy Review*, *American Catholic Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, *Journal of Dialogue Studies*, *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *Philosophical Investigations*, Midwest Pragmatism Group, Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World, North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics.

GUEST LECTURES

- Fall 2023, Invited Speaker, “Philosophy and AI” Grand Rapids Breakfast Club
- Fall 2022, Guest Lecturer, Marx, Intro to Philosophy, GVSU
- Fall 2012, Guest Lecturer, Feminist Philosophy of Art, St. Olaf College
- Fall 2012, Guest Lecturer, The Problem of Evil, St. Olaf College
- Fall 2010 Guest Instructor, Heidegger’s Philosophy of Language,” MSU Graduate retreat.
- Fall 2010 Guest Lecturer for “Hermeneutics,” The University of Notre Dame
- Spring 2010 Guest Lecturer, for “Gadamer Seminar,” Michigan State University.
“Language as a Power of Awareness”
- Spring 2002 Guest Lecturer for “Abstract Expressionism,” Beloit College
“Kant’s and Hegel’s Philosophy of Art”
- Fall 2001 Guest Lecturer for “Women’s Studies Senior Seminar,” Beloit College
“Phenomenology and the Body”
- Spring 2001 Guest Lecturer for “Wittgenstein and 20th Century Continental,” St. Olaf College
“Introduction to Phenomenology: Husserl and Heidegger”
- Spring 2000 Guest Lecturer for “The Body in Contemporary Art,” Beloit College
“The Body in Descartes and Postmodern Philosophy”
- Fall 1999 Guest Lecturer for “Introduction to Philosophy,” Beloit College
“The Historical Background to Descartes’ *Meditations*”
- Spring 1998 Guest Lecturer for “Twentieth-Century Art,” Beloit College
“Schopenhauer and Nietzsche on Tragedy and Art”
- Fall 1997 Guest Lecturer for “Quantum Chemistry,” Beloit College
“The History of the Philosophy of Quantum Mechanics”
- Spring 1997 Guest Lecturer for “Modern Political Theory,” Beloit College
“Kant’s and Hegel’s Political Theory”
- Fall 1996 Guest Lecturer for “French Literature,” Beloit College
“French Existentialism”
- Spring 1994 Guest Lecturer for “Senior Seminar: Continental Philosophy,” St. Olaf College
“Phenomenology and Intersubjectivity”

COMMITTEE EXPERIENCE

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 2009- | General Education Committee (GVSU) |
| 2009- | Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee (GVSU) |
| 2020-21 | Central Division APA Program Committee |
| 2017-19 | Book Session Committee for NASPH |
| 2001-02 | President, Phi Beta Kappa (Beloit) |
| 2001-02 | Physics Search Committee (Beloit) |
| 2001-02 | History Search Committee (Beloit) |
| 2000-01 | Religious Studies Search Committee (Beloit) |
| 2000-01 | Honor Code Committee (Beloit) |
| 2000-02 | Professional and Program Development Committee (Beloit) |
| 1999-2000 | Associate Director of Student Support Services Search Committee (Beloit) |
| 1999-2000 | Head Librarian Search Committee (Beloit) |
| 1998-99 | Photographer Search Committee, Art Department (Beloit) |
| 1998-2003 | Assessment Committee (Beloit) |
| 1997-98 | Academic Performance Committee (Beloit) |

DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

The Fruitfulness of Dialogue: An Account of Intersubjectivity Appropriate For Hermeneutics
(Director: Stephen H. Watson)

A central tenet of hermeneutics is the claim that dialogue is necessary for the full understanding of ourselves. It follows, then, that dialogue must be fruitful for understanding in a way in which no solitary, “monological” activity can be. This dissertation provides a much-needed defense of this claim by articulating and defending the essential parts of an account of intersubjectivity—that is, an account of the role that other subjects play in the constitution of our selves. Through exposing the necessity of our intersubjective relations for the very possibility of language use, awareness of time, and embodied awareness of the world, I demonstrate the existence of a pre-reflective relation between embodied subjects. The relation is expressed in dialogue in such a way that our expressions of ourselves are at the same time constitutive of ourselves. I focus on J. G. Fichte and Wilhelm von Humboldt on the issue of language, on Edmund Husserl and Martin Buber (and Emmanuel Levinas) on the issue of time-consciousness, and on Jean-Paul Sartre and Maurice Merleau-Ponty on the issue of embodied subjectivity. This thematic/historical method of the dissertation also serves to clarify some of the historical origins of the hermeneutic tradition.

GRADUATE SEMINARS

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Philosophy of Mind (Ramsey) | Feminist Theory (Sterba) | Heidegger (Watson) |
| Philosophy of Science (McKim) | Time and Narrative (Watson) | Habermas (McCarthy) |
| Husserl’s Nachlass Seminar (Bernet) | Intermediate Logic (Detlefsen) | Metaphysics (Plantinga) |
| 20th Century Ethics (Solomon) | Liberalism and its Critics (Weithman) | Epistemology (DePaul) |
| Levinas Seminar (Bernet) | Kant’s Philosophy of Religion (Quinn) | Hegel (Ameriks) |
| Recent Continental (Watson) | Foucault (Gutting) | Aesthetics (Watson) |
| Thomistic Ethics (McInerney) | Intersubjectivity (Watson) | Plato (Sayre) |

— Passed Written Examination on the History of Philosophy from Pre-Socratics to Hegel

— Passed *With Highest Honors* Extensive Oral Examination on Continental Philosophy

REFERENCES

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Prof. Stephen H. Watson | Prof. Phil Shields | Prof. Scott Pratt |
| Dept. of Philosophy | Chair, Dept. of Philosophy | Department of Philosophy |

University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Beloit College
Beloit, WI 53511

University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97401

Prof. Shaun Gallagher
Chair, Dept. of Philosophy
University of Central Florida
Colburn Hall 411
Orlando, FL 32816-1352

Prof. Dan Milsky
Department of Philosophy
Northeastern Illinois University
5500 N. St. Louis
Chicago, IL 60625

Prof. James Risser
Department of Philosophy
Seattle University
Seattle, WA 98122