

Peter J. Mehl

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Religion, Ethics and the Social Sciences, The University of Chicago, 1989

M.A., Religion, The University of Chicago, 1983

M.A., Philosophy, Ohio University, 1982

B.A., Philosophy, English Literature, Ohio University, 1981

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

University of Central Arkansas

Associate Dean, Professor, August 2002 - present

Director, General Education Program, July 1999 – December 2003

Interim Dean, College of Liberal Arts, June 1998 - July 1999

Assistant Dean, College of Liberal Arts, May 1996 - June 1998; June 1999 - June 2000

Director, Interdisciplinary Religious Studies Program, 1996 - 1999

Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion, May 1994 - June 2003

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, August 1990 - May 1994

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, College of Medicine

Adjunct Instructor in the Division of Medical Humanities, August 1992 – November 1995

University of Chicago, The Divinity School

Graduate Lecturer, March 1990 - May 1990

DePaul University

Lecturer, September 1989 - May 1990

AREAS OF SCHOLARLY SPECIALIZATION

Philosophical and Religious Ethics, Applied Ethics, Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Culture, Moral Psychology, Kierkegaard, William James

COURSES TAUGHT

Health Care Ethics; Contemporary Moral Problems; Ethics; Medical Ethics; Business, Ethics and Society; Religion and Ethics; Introduction to Religious Studies; World Religions; Philosophy of Religion; Religion and Psychology; Religion in the Modern World; Introduction to the Bible; Freshman Seminar: Becoming a Critical Thinker; William James's Philosophy; American Pragmatism.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Thinking through Kierkegaard: Existential Identity in a Pluralistic World (University of Illinois Press, May 2005)

Book Chapters

“Edifying Hermeneutics: Kierkegaard’s Existential ‘Method’ and Its Limits,” in *Kierkegaard and the Word(s)*, edited by Poul Houe and Gordon Marino, (C. A. Reitzel, København, 2003)

“Kierkegaard and the Relativist Challenge to Practical Philosophy, with a New Postscript,” in *Kierkegaard After MacIntyre*, edited by John Davenport and Anthony Rudd, (Open Court Publishing, 2001), originally published in *The Journal of Religious Ethics* 14/2: (Fall 1986).

“Moral Virtue, Mental Health, and Happiness: The Moral Psychology of Kierkegaard's Judge William,” *International Kierkegaard Commentary on Kierkegaard's Either/Or, Part II*, edited by Robert Perkins, (Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 1995).

Journal Articles

“Educating for Life: Liberal Arts and the Human Spirit,” *Philosophy in the Contemporary World*, (Fall 2010)

“Matters of Meaning: Autonomy, Authenticity and Authority in Kierkegaard,” *Philosophy in the Contemporary World*, 4/1&2 (Spring and Summer, 1997)

“William James's Ethics and the New Casuistry,” *The International Journal of Applied Philosophy*, 2/1: (Summer/Fall 1996)

“Religion, Philosophy and Public Life,” *Theology and Public Policy*, 7/2: (Winter 1995)

“The Self Well Lost: Psychotherapeutic Interpretation and Nelson Goodman's Irrationalism,” *Philosophy in the Contemporary World*, 2/4: (Winter 1995)

“Despair's Demand: An Appraisal of Kierkegaard's Argument for God,” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, 32: (December 1992)

“In the Twilight of Modernity: MacIntyre and Mitchell on Moral Traditions and Their Assessment,” *The Journal of Religious Ethics* 19/1: (Spring 1991)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- “Educating for Life: Liberal Arts and the Human Spirit,” Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World Conference, July 2009
- “Can Kierkegaard Speak to a Religiously Pluralistic World?,” American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division conference, December 2007.
- “Selfhood, Sociality and Spiritual Satisfaction in Kierkegaard,” International Kierkegaard Conference, June 2005

- “Can Kierkegaard Speak to a Theologically Pluralistic World?,” Southwest Commission on Religious Studies Regional Meeting, March 2005
- “Living Learning Communities: General Education on a Confucian Model,” National Conference of the Association for General and Liberal Studies, October 2001.
- “Edifying Hermeneutics: Kierkegaard’s Existential ‘Method’ and Its Limits,” International Kierkegaard Conference, June 2001
- “Personhood and Possibility: The Promise and Peril of Kierkegaard’s Theological Anthropology,” Religion, Culture and Kierkegaard Group, American Academy of Religion Meeting, November 1998
- “Liberal Education and the Global Economy: Recent Research,” Faculty Development Seminar, University of Central Arkansas, September 1998
- “Matters of Meaning: Autonomy, Authenticity and Authority in Kierkegaard,” International Kierkegaard Conference, June 1997
- “William James’s Ethics and the New Casuistry,” Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World Conference, August 1996
- “The Self Well Lost: Psychoanalytic Interpretation and Nelson Goodman’s Irrealism,” Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World Conference, August 1995
- “William James’s Religious Ethics and the Revival of Casuistry,” Pragmatism and Empiricism in American Religious Thought Group, American Academy of Religion Meeting, November 1994
- “Religion, Philosophy, and Public Life: A Review Essay of Stephen Carter’s *The Culture of Disbelief: How American Law and Politics Trivialize Religious Devotion*,” Arkansas Philosophical Association Meeting, October 1994
- “Medical Ethics: Autonomy vs. Justified Paternalism,” Board of Directors, Methodist Health Systems, Memphis, TN, March 1993
- “Euthanasia and Questions about Autonomy,” The Arkansas Chapter of the Hemlock Society, August 1992

WORK IN PROGRESS

- “Liberal Arts Education and the Challenges of Pluralism and Professionalism”
- “Casuistry in the Classroom: A Casuistic Analysis of Abortion”
- “Kierkegaard and William James: Edifying Philosophers”