

Benjamin A. Rider

Department of Philosophy and Religion
University of Central Arkansas
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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION: Ancient Greek Philosophy, Ethics

AREA OF COMPETENCE: Applied Ethics, Ancient Chinese Philosophy

EDUCATION

PhD, Philosophy, The University of Texas at Austin, December 2007

Concentration: Ancient Philosophy (Joint Program in Philosophy and Classics)

Dissertation: *Socratic Protreptic and Moral Education in Plato's Early Dialogues*

Committee: Paul Woodruff (Supervisor), Stephen A. White, John Deigh, Jonathan Dancy, Jim Hankinson

MA, Philosophy, The University of Texas at Austin, 2003

Thesis: *Epicurus on Fear of Death and the Good Life*

Thesis Advisor: Stephen A. White

BA, Philosophy, Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA, 2000

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor, University of Central Arkansas, 2014-present

Assistant Professor, University of Central Arkansas, 2008-2014

Visiting Assistant Professor, SUNY College at Brockport, 2007-2008

Assistant Instructor, The University of Texas at Austin, 2005-2007

Teaching Assistant, The University of Texas at Austin, 2001-2005

PUBLICATIONS

"Socratic Philosophy for Beginners? On Introducing Philosophy with Plato's *Lysis*".

Teaching Philosophy 37.3 (2014).

"Epicurus on the Fear of Death and the Relative Value of Lives". *Apeiron* 47.4 (2014), 461-484.

"Epicurus and the Chocolate Factory," in *Roald Dahl and Philosophy: A Little Nonsense Now and Then*, ed. Jacob M. Held (Rowman and Littlefield, 2014).

"Socrates," in *International Encyclopedia of Ethics*. Ed. by Hugh LaFollette (Wiley-Blackwell, 2013).

"Socrates' Philosophical Protreptic in *Euthydemus* 278c-282d". *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* 94 (2012), 208-228.

"Wisdom, *eutuchia*, and happiness in the *Euthydemus*". *Ancient Philosophy* 32.1 (2012), 1-14.

"A Socratic Seduction: Philosophical Protreptic in Plato's *Lysis*". *Apeiron* 44.1 (2011), 40-66.

- “Self-Care, Self-Knowledge, and Politics in the *Alcibiades I*”. *Epoché* 15.2 (2011), 395-413.
- “Oh, the Places You’ll Go! The Examined, Happy Life,” in *Dr. Seuss and Philosophy: Oh, The Thinks You Can Think!* Ed. by Jacob M. Held (Rowman and Littlefield, 2011), 1-14.
- “The Ethics of Superlongevity: Should We Cure Death?” *Philosophy in the Contemporary World* 17.1(2010), 56-65.

BOOK REVIEWS

- “Review of *Plato’s Moral Realism: The Discovery of the Presuppositions of Ethics*, by John M. Rist.” *Classical Review* 63.2: 2013, pp. 362-364.
- “Review of *Plato’s Charmides: Positive Elenchus in a ‘Socratic’ Dialogue*, by Thomas Tuozzo.” *Ancient Philosophy* 33.2: 2013, pp. 425-430.
- “Review of *The Ethics of Confucius and Aristotle: Mirrors of Virtue*, by Jiyuan Yu.” *Teaching Philosophy* 32.2, 2009, pp. 220-222.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- “Living in Agreement: Stoicism and Daoism on the Sage”

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Positive Socratic Psychotherapy in *Gorgias*.” *32nd Annual Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy and the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy*. New York, NY, October 2014.
- “Living in Agreement: Stoicism and Daoism on the Sage.” *31st Annual Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy and the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy*. New York, NY, October 2013. Also presented at the *Midsouth Philosophy Conference*, Rhodes College, TN, February 2013.
- “Socratic Philosophy for Beginners? On Teaching Philosophy with Plato’s *Lysis*.” *29th Annual Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy and the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy*. New York, NY, October 2011. Also presented at *Midsouth Philosophy Conference*, Rhodes College, TN, February 2012.
- “Epicurus on Fear of Death and the Relative Value of Lives.” *28th Annual Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy and the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy*. New York, NY, October 2010.
- “Fear of Death Revisited: Epicurus on Fear of Death and the Relative Value of Lives.” *33rd Annual Workshop in Ancient Philosophy*, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, April 2010. Also presented at the *Midsouth Philosophy Conference*, Memphis University, TN, March 2010.
- “Luck in Plato’s *Euthydemus*.” *27th Annual Joint Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy and the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy*. New York, NY, October 2009.
- “The Ethics of Superlongevity: Should We Cure Death?” *Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World, 16th Annual Conference*. Oneonta, NY, July 2009.
- “Self-Care, Self-Knowledge, and Politics in the *Alcibiades I*.” *Ancient Philosophy Society, Ninth Annual Independent Meeting*. Loyola College, Baltimore, MD, April 2009.
- “The Ethics of Superlongevity: Should We Cure Death?” *Midsouth Philosophy Conference*, Memphis University, TN, March 2009.

TALKS AND COMMENTARIES

- “What is the Significance of Laches’ Account of Courage?” Colloquium at the NEH Summer Seminar on Socrates, Lewis and Clark College, OR, June 2014.
- Comments on Tim Crowley, “Aristotle’s ‘Perceptible Bodies’ at *On Generation and Corruption* II.1.” *Midsouth Philosophy Conference*, Rhodes College, TN, February 2013.
- “Person-in-the-World: Comparative Perspectives on Personal Ecology”, with Nicholas Brasovan. “Exploring Our World” Conference Series, sponsored by the University of Central Arkansas College of Liberal Arts. Conway, AR, April 2012.
- Comments on David Antonini, “Overcoming Attempts to Dichotomize the *Republic*.” *Midsouth Philosophy Conference*, Rhodes College, TN, February 2012.
- Comments on Erik Weber’s “The Great Benefits of Stoicism.” *Midsouth Philosophy Conference*, Memphis University, TN, March 2010.
- Comments on Ulrike Bruchmuller’s “The Best State or the Authenticity of Plato’s *Seventh Letter*.” *32nd Annual Workshop in Ancient Philosophy*, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Mexico City, March 2009
- Comments on George Backen’s “The Ethics of Bestiality.” *Midsouth Philosophy Conference*, Memphis University, TN, March 2009.
- “The Seductive Socrates: Theories of Education in Plato.” *Friday Afternoon Discussion* lecture, Hendrix College, February 2009.
- “The Ethics of Superlongevity.” *PhiRe Film and Lecture Series*. University of Central Arkansas, November 2008.
- Comments on Tim O’Keefe’s “The Philosophy of Anaxarchus.” *28th Annual Workshop in Ancient Philosophy*, The University of Texas at Austin, April 2004.

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

At University of Central Arkansas:

- Greek and Roman Philosophy, Fall 2008-2013
- Philosophy for Living, Fall 2008 through present
- Ethics, Spring 2009, 2011, 2013
- Seminar on Hellenistic Philosophy, Spring 2012
- Seminar on Plato’s Dialogues, Spring 2010 and Spring 2014

At State University of New York College at Brockport:

- Introduction to Ethics, Spring 2008
- Plato and Aristotle (seminar), Spring 2008
- Ancient Philosophy, Fall 2007
- Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2007

At the University of Texas at Austin:

- Introduction to Philosophy, Summer 2007
- Knowledge and Reality, Fall 2006
- Contemporary Moral Problems, Summer 2005 and Spring 2006

GRADUATE TEACHING

At University of Central Arkansas:

Health Care Ethics (for the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program), Summer 2010, Summer 2011

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Anonymous Reviewer for *Political Studies* (journal), 2014

Anonymous Reviewer for *Teaching Philosophy* (journal), 2013

Anonymous Reviewer (of two articles) for *Apeiron* (journal), 2013

Reviewer for Textbook Proposal for Oxford University Press, 2012

Anonymous Reviewer for a special edition of *Philosophia*, 2012

Anonymous Reviewer for *Ancient Philosophy*, 2010

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

At University of Central Arkansas:

Honors Thesis Advisor, Gregory Sketas, "The Ethics of Obesity," Fall 2011-Spring 2012.

Member, Curriculum Committee, College of Liberal Arts, 2011-present.

Chair, Curriculum Committee, Department of Philosophy and Religion, 2011-present.

Member, Curriculum Committee, Department of Philosophy and Religion, 2010-present.

Chair, Endowment Foundation Fund Committee, Department of Philosophy and Religion, 2010-2013.

Member, Endowment Foundation Fund Committee, Department of Philosophy and Religion, 2010-2013.

Member, Search/Selection Committee, Assistant Professor of Philosophy in Feminist Philosophy and Critical Race Theory, Spring 2010.

Faculty Advisor, Philosophy and Religion Club, 2010-2013.

Honors Thesis Advisor, William M. Strigel, "The Reality of Platonic Love," Fall 2010.

Member, Scholarship Committee, 2010-present.

Member, Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies (ILS) Degree Committee, College of Liberal Arts, 2009-present.

Presentation, "The Ethics of Superlongevity." *PhiRe Film and Lecture Series*. University of Central Arkansas, November 2008.

At State University of New York College at Brockport:

Library Liaison, Department of Philosophy, 2007-2008.

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Philosophical Association

Ancient Philosophy Society

Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy

Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World

HONORS AND AWARDS

Grant for the NEH Summer Seminar on Socrates, Lewis and Clark College, OR, Summer 2014

Finalist for the Teaching Excellence Award, University of Central Arkansas, 2013-2014

Grant for the Institute for Infusing Asian Studies into the Undergraduate Curriculum at the East-West Center, Hawaii, Summer 2011

Oldham Fellowship, from the Department of Philosophy at The University of Texas at Austin, Spring 2007

Tuition Fellowship, from The University of Texas at Austin, 2005-2006 and 2006-2007

Distinguished Teacher Award (for teaching excellence), from the Department of Philosophy at The University of Texas at Austin, 2001-2002 and 2003-2004

Soper Prize (for outstanding senior philosophy undergraduate), from the Department of Philosophy at Whitman College, 2000

READING LANGUAGES

Classical Greek, Latin

REFERENCES

Charles Harvey, Professor and Chair of Philosophy and Religion at University of Central Arkansas. Email: charlesh@uca.edu. Phone: (501) 450-5591

Paul Woodruff, Professor of Philosophy and Classics at the University of Texas at Austin. Email: paul.woodruff@austin.utexas.edu. Phone: (512) 471-4857

Stephen A. White, Professor of Classics at the University of Texas at Austin. Email: sawhite@uts.cc.utexas.edu. Phone: (512) 475-7457