

DEVON HAWKINS

University of Central Arkansas | Department of Philosophy and Religion | Irby Hall 301
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy | August 2016 – present (in progress)

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Dissertation:

“Eudaimonism and Postmodern Identity”

Committee:

Dr. Fred Evans, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, Duquesne University (Director)

Dr. Lanei Rodemeyer, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Director of Graduate Studies,
Duquesne University

Dr. Tom Eyers, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Duquesne University

M.A. in Philosophy | May 2015

Kent State University, Kent, OH

Master’s Thesis:

“Schelling, Heidegger, and Evil” | April 2015

Committee:

Dr. Gina Zavota, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Graduate Coordinator, Kent State
University (Advisor)

Dr. Kim Garchar, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Undergraduate Coordinator, Kent
State University

Dr. Michael Byron, Chair and Professor of Philosophy, Kent State University

Dr. Tammy Clewell, Professor of English, Kent State University

B.A. in Accounting, International Business, and Spanish | May 2003

Westminster College, Fulton, MO

RESEARCH

Research Interests:

- Ancient Philosophy
- Contemporary French Philosophy
- History of Philosophy
- Ethics
- Logic
- German Idealism
- Phenomenology
- Critical Theory

Dissertation Abstract: “Eudaimonism and Postmodern Identity”

The postmodern condition is marked by a proliferation of images, objects, and ideas, such that quantity seemingly erases quality, and shallowness replaces depth. Even still, I argue, the postmodern can support a

concept of identity grounded in a discreet, autonomous moral subject. I argue further that a moral subject can be constituted absent the quagmire of modernity's centered, reconciled self, which simultaneously eliminates what some postmodern theorists offer as alternative: a nihilistic acceptance of the discreet subject's dissolution into a fragmented, decentered self incapable of action. Moreover, rather than linking this change in subjectivity with the movements of capital, or the modernizing, alienating force of capitalism, I link modernity's identity quagmire to a shift in the definition of "justice" brought about by two hallmarks of modern philosophical thought: the birth of continental rationalism and the predominance of social contract theory. These theories claim that identity is internal, unified, and the basis of autonomy and agency, as well as necessary for political justice. However, justice under the social contract is tied to an accountability that requires more than one's own internal assessment of merit; it requires external, objective, or material kinds of evidence as well. This necessarily emphasizes the quantitative aspects of political justice, leaving behind the qualitative aspects favored by the ancients, who more routinely defined justice as consistency with a definitional state, or having to do with character. The relationship between the modern and the postmodern—in empirical, theoretical and historical terms—reveals a cyclicity in the external world that is analogous to the activity of identity formation. Postmodern identity, then, is an activity in which multiple, sometimes highly diverse, characteristics coalesce. This activity is not a means by which we reach a static point, but rather a continuous movement and an end in itself. Identity is the reconciler, not the reconciled. To better understand the possibilities for coherent postmodern subjectivity, this study bridges ancient and postmodern thought to reveal how identity should be understood as an activity that reconciles, rather than a thing or object reconciled.

Conference Presentations:

"Postmodernity, Atomization, and Cognitive Mapping: Reading Jameson Reading Deleuze and Guattari" | March 2020

Narrative 2020 | International Society for the Study of Narrative | New Orleans, LA

"Plato on 'Knowing Thyself' in the *Philebus*" | November 2019

46th Annual Arkansas Philological Association Conference | University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Little Rock, AR

"Ethics to Politics in *A Thousand Plateaus*: Agency without Subject" | April 2017

Ohio Philosophical Association Annual Meeting | Ohio Northern University, Ada, OH

"Aristotle's Prime Matter: An Analysis of Hugh R. King's Revisionist Approach" | April 2015

Ohio Philosophical Association Annual Meeting | Baldwin Wallace University, Berea, OH

"Schelling, Heidegger, and the Possibility of Evil" | September 2014

Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium, Continental Working Group | Washington and Jefferson College, Washington, PA

TEACHING

Instructor: University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR

Taught the following courses:

- Medieval Philosophy | Fall 2021
- Philosophy for Living | Fall 2020, Spring 2021 (2 sections), Fall 2021
- Critical Thinking | Fall 2020
- Continental Philosophy | Spring 2020

Visiting Instructor for First Year Writing: University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR

Taught the following courses:

- Academic Writing and Research | Spring 2020 (2 sections)
- Introduction to College Writing | Fall 2019 (3 sections)

Instructor: Walsh University, North Canton, OH

Taught the following courses:

- Moral Philosophy | Spring 2019 (2 sections)
- Philosophy of Human Nature | Spring 2019
- Reading and Writing Connections | Fall 2015

Teaching Fellow: Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Taught the following course:

- Basic Philosophical Questions | Fall 2018

Philosophy Teaching Assistant: Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Assisted in course design, lecture, exam creation, and grading for the following courses:

- Basic Philosophical Questions | Fall 2017 and Spring 2018
- Christian Philosophy | Spring 2017
- Philosophical Ethics | Fall 2016

Instructor: Kent State University, Kent, OH

Taught the following courses:

- Introduction to Philosophy | Summer 2015, Spring 2016, and Summer 2016
- Introduction to Ethics | Fall 2015 (2 sections) and Spring 2016 (2 sections)
- Introduction to Logic | Summer 2015

Philosophy Graduate Assistant: Kent State University, Kent, OH

Assisted in course design, lecture, exam creation, and grading for the following courses:

- Introduction to Philosophy | Spring 2015
- Introduction to Ethics | Fall 2014

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

Annual Conference Program Co-Chair | July 2019 – present

28th Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World | YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, CO (upcoming July 2021)

27th Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World | Guilford College, Greensboro, NC (meeting cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic)

I share the duties of this post with another member of the organization. Duties include: preparing and circulating the call for abstracts, cataloguing submissions for blind review, corresponding with potential conference participants, distributing submissions for review to conference organizers, compiling scoring data after submissions are reviewed, planning and preparing the conference program, and assisting with any other tasks related to planning the annual meeting as necessary.

Session Chair | November 2019

46th Annual Arkansas Philological Association Conference | University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Little Rock, AR

President of Duquesne Women in Philosophy | 2018-19 Academic Year

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

I was responsible for planning and leading all organization meetings, managing the organization roster and election of new officers, acquiring funding, and assisting other officers and members in planning organization events.

Session Chair | March 2017

4th Annual Duquesne Women in Philosophy Conference, “Critical Philosophies of Life” | Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

President of Graduate Students in Philosophy | 2017-18 Academic Year

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

I was responsible for planning and leading all organization meetings, managing the organization roster and election of new officers, acquiring funding, and planning our annual conference in its entirety with the assistance of the vice president and broader membership.

Session Chair | March 2014

22nd Annual Philosophy Graduate Student Conference in Remembrance of May 4th | Kent State University, Kent, OH

Submissions-Coordinator Mentor | 2014-15 Academic Year

22nd Annual Philosophy Graduate Student Conference in Remembrance of May 4th | Kent State University, Kent, OH

I mentored my successor and other first-year graduate students in the duties of this post, as well as the organization and structure of the conference as a whole.

Submissions Coordinator | 2013-14 Academic Year

21st Annual Philosophy Graduate Student Conference in Remembrance of May 4th | Kent State University, Kent, OH

I was responsible for cataloguing submissions for blind review, corresponding with potential conference participants, distributing submissions for review to conference organizers, compiling scoring data after submissions were reviewed, leading discussion of submissions during the selection process, and assisting to update the online conference program code

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Spanish | Reading: Advanced; Writing: Advanced; Speaking: Advanced
Undergraduate major

French | Reading: Intermediate; Writing: Intermediate; Speaking: Intermediate
Research fluency established through university coursework

Latin | Reading: Intermediate; Writing: Intermediate; Speaking: Intermediate
Research fluency established through university coursework

Ancient Greek | Reading: Basic; Writing: Basic; Speaking: Basic
Beginning research fluency established through private study

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

The International Society for the Study of Narrative | 2020 – present
Member

Arkansas Philological Association | 2019 – present
Member

Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World | 2019 – present
Member, 2020 and 2021 Annual Conference Program Co-Chair

Society for Phenomenological and Existential Philosophy | 2019 – present
Member

American Philosophical Association | 2017 – present
Member

Minorities and Philosophy | 2017 – present
Member, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Graduate Students in Philosophy | 2016 – present
Member, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Duquesne Women in Philosophy | 2016 – present
Member, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

NON-ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dr Pepper Snapple Group | 2007-2013
Business Consultant, Finance Manager, Senior Financial Analyst

Fleischmann's Yeast | 2006-2007
Senior Accountant

The Jones Company – A Centex Company | 2003-2006
Staff Accountant

REFERENCES

Available upon request.