

Matthew P. Meyer, Ph. D.

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Phenomenology (Heidegger), Existentialism, 19th and 20th Century Continental

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Race, Ancient Philosophy, Ethics, Postmodernism, Aesthetics, Feminism,
Philosophy of Law, Environmental Philosophy, Psychoanalysis (Lacan)

EDUCATION

PH. D., Philosophy	May 2008
<i>Department of Philosophy</i>	
<i>Stony Brook University (SUNY-Stony Brook)</i>	

M.A., Philosophy	May 2004
<i>Department of Philosophy</i>	
<i>Stony Brook University (SUNY-Stony Brook)</i>	

BACHELOR OF ARTS (MAGNA CUM LAUDE)	December 2000
<i>Philosophy; English-Linguistics</i>	
<i>University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire</i>	

BOOKS

1. *Archery and the Human Condition in Lacan, the Greeks, and Nietzsche: The Bow with the Greatest Tension*. Lexington Press, 2019.

EDITOR

1. *Mad Max and Philosophy*, co-editor with David Koepsell. Gen. ed., William Irwin. Blackwell, 2024.

IN PROGRESS

1. Book Manuscript: *On Thoughtlessness: Hate, the Denial of Death, and Meaninglessness* (under contract with Lexington Press, estimated publication date spring 2027)

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

1. “‘Look, any longer out on that road and I’m one of them, you know?’: Madness in Mad Max.” *Mad Max and Philosophy*, co-editor with David Koepsell. Gen. ed., William Irwin. Blackwell, 2024.
2. “The Ethics of Women Water Warriors: #NoDAPL and Indigenous Women’s Environmental Ethic,” co-authored with Heather Ann Moody, in *Interdisciplinary Environmental Ethics in the Midwest*, ed. Ian Smith and Matt Kearney, Michigan State University Press, 2022.
3. “Westworld as Philosophy: A Commentary on Colonialism.” *The Palgrave Handbook of Pop Culture as Philosophy*, ed. David Kyle Johnson. Palgrave Macmillan, September 2022.
4. “From Indecision to Ambiguity: Simone de Beauvoir and Chidi’s Moral Growth,” in *The Good Place and Philosophy*, ed. Kimberly Engels, Blackwell Publishing, September 2020.
5. “Beauty, Dominance, Humanity: Three Takes on Nudity in *Westworld*.” *Westworld and Philosophy*. Ed. by James South and Kimberly Engels. Blackwell Publishing, 2018.
6. “Returning to *Mystic River*: Nietzsche and Tragedy and Values.” *Film and Philosophy*, Vol. 19, 2015, 173-192.
7. “Why Underwood is Frankly Not an Overman,” *House of Cards and Philosophy*. Gen. ed., William Irwin, Blackwell Publishing, 2015.
8. “Being-in *The Office*: Sartre, the Look, and the Viewer.” With Greg Schneider. *The Office and Philosophy*, Gen. ed. William Irwin, Blackwell Publishing, 2008.
9. “Reflective Listening in Heraclitus.” *International Journal of Listening*. Vol. 19. 2007.

CONFERENCE PAPERS and PRESENTATIONS

1. “Critical Thinking in the Digital Media Era,” to the University Staff Professional Development Conference, UW-Eau Claire, June 5, 2024.
2. “AI and Meaning,” to HNRS 178: AI from an Interdisciplinary Perspective, April 8, 2024.
3. “Dan Markingson and Human Subject Research,” to IDIS 200: Health Care Humanities, UWEC, March 28, 2024.
4. “Biocentrism” and “Whose Responsibility is Mitigating Climate Change?” to the Aldo Leopold Fellows, Virtual, March 13, 2024.
5. “Thoughtlessness and Philosophical Practice,” National Philosophical Counseling Association, Virtual, February 16-18, 2024.
6. “Teaching Thomson using Technology” at the Teaching Hub of the Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Vancouver, BC, Canada, April 17-20, 2019.
7. “The ‘Best-Ball’ Group Test,” part of “Shaking up the Standard Lecture,” at the American Association of Philosophy Teachers at the Central Division American Philosophical Association meeting, Chicago, IL, February 22-24, 2018.

8. "(In)Visibility of the Flesh of Nature: Cognitive Science and Eco-Phenomenology on the Benefits of 'Nature'." Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle. Phoenix, AZ. April 1, 2017.
9. "Timing Nature and Time in Nature: How Nature Affects Us." "Meals with Honors", University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire. December 2, 2016.
10. "Timing Nature and Its Effect on Us: The Phenomenological Distinction Between 'Natural' and Non-Natural Time and How it Affects Deliberation," International Association of Environmental Philosophy, Salt Lake City, UT, October 23, 2016.
11. "Timing Nature and Time in Nature: How Nature Affects Us." Faculty Forum, ORSP, University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire. September 21, 2016.
12. "Straight to the Target: Lacan and the Meaning of the Bow." "Metaphors in Use," the 3rd Annual Philosophy Conference at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, October 2015.
13. "Re-turning to *Mystic River*: Nietzsche on Tragedy and Values." Wisconsin Philosophical Association, Madison, WI, April 2014.
14. "Heidegger's Philosophy and Politics." Part of a History and Philosophy Department Colloquium in celebration of the "Year of Germany." UW-River Falls, October 2013.
15. "On Being-in and Buying-in: Consumerism, Phenomenology, and Eco-Phenomenology." International Association of Environmental Philosophy at the annual meeting of the Society of Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Rochester, NY. November 2012.
16. "Troubled Water: Uncapping the Truth about Bottled Water." A Presentation for "Trash Talks," a series put on the Housing and Sustainability Committee, UW-Eau Claire, April 2012.
17. "Out of Sight, Out of Mind. Toward a Phenomenology of Disposability." International Society of Environmental Ethics at the Central Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association. March 2012.
18. "Pressing the Reset Button: Death and Sustainability." Philosophy Department Colloquium, UW-Eau Claire, May 2011.
19. "Recognizing Struggle: Wisdom in Heraclitus." Minnesota Philosophical Society, November 2008.
20. "Heraclitus and Mythic Thinking: Unity and Holism at the Birth of Philosophy." Minnesota Philosophical Society, October 2006.
21. "Heraclitus and Language: Both Willing and Unwilling. . ." Iowa Philosophical Society, September 2006.
22. "Heraclitean Pedagogy: The Possibility of Teaching Wakefulness Through Interplay." North Georgia Philosophy Student Conference, April 2006. Winner of Best Graduate Paper Award.
23. "(At)Tending to Poets: A Poet's Task According to Heidegger and Derrida." International Association of Philosophy and Literature (IAPL) Conference. Leeds, England, May 2003.

GRANTS and AWARDS

External Grants

1. National Endowment for the Humanities "Enduring Questions" Course Grant. "What is Happiness? A Multicultural Approach" with Kristin Schaupp, April 2016-19. Amount: \$28000

Internal Grants

1. University Research and Creative Activity grant. Course Release. "Thoughtlessness." Fall 2024.
2. Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates Grant, Summer 2023. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, UW-Eau Claire. With Dr. Alex Smith, Computer Science, Stephen Ruthy and Morgan Feibig, students. "Wittgenstein Analysis using LLMs," Total Award, \$8600.
3. Student Faculty and Collaborative Research, Fall 2021 and Spring 2022. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, UW-Eau Claire. With Ryan Dainsberg. "Commanding Oneself in the Information Age." Total Amount: \$2000 each semester
4. Sabbatical Spring 2022. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. "Thoughtlessness." Working on chapter and book proposal.
5. Summer Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grant Program, Summer 2019. Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, UW-Eau Claire. With Killean Carter. "Development of a Course in the Philosophy of Race and Ethnicity." Total Amount: \$4600.
6. Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates Grant, Summer 2019. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, UW-Eau Claire. With Dr. Eric Kasper and Sager Smith. "The Expansion of the Self in Self-Defense." Total Amount: \$4600
7. University Research and Creative Activity. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. Fall 2019 course release. \$3750 equivalent.
8. Summer Extramural Grant Development Grant, Summer 2015. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, UW-Eau Claire. Developed and wrote grant proposal for National Endowment of the Humanities "Enduring Questions" grant. Amount: \$2000
9. Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates Grant, Summer 2016. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, UW-Eau Claire. With Alexander Woodworth. "The Experience of Being Alone." Total Amount: \$4300
10. Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates Grant, Summer 2014. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, UW-Eau Claire. With Brian Macke. "Phenomenology of Commuting." Total Amount: \$4300

Awards

1. Recognition Award from Services for Students with Disabilities. UW-Eau Claire. October 2018. Only given to one Faculty person a year.

Other Recognition from Students

Gurpreet Singh, student, Blugold Foundation donation to department in my honor, 2023.
Ryan Dainsberg, student, Blugold Foundation donation to department in my honor, 2021.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire	Fall 2020-present
Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire	Fall 2014-Spring 2020
Lecturer, University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire	Fall 2004-Spring 2013
Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire	2011-12

Courses Taught:

1. **PHI 101: Basic Philosophical Issues**
2. **PHI 101: First Year Experience- FYE-Healthy Choices Pilot (Fall 2007)**
3. **PHI 120: Ethical Reasoning (including Online version)**
4. **Bundles: Human and Animal Rights**
5. **Humans and Nature**
6. **PHI 150: Logic and Critical Thinking**
7. **PHI 200: What is Happiness? (and online)**
8. **PHI 235: Ancient Philosophy**
9. **PHI 280: Philosophy of Race**
10. **PHI 306: Health Care Ethics (and online)**
11. **PHI 310: Philosophy of Law**
12. **PHI 320: Environmental Ethics**
13. **PHI 325: Aesthetics**
14. **PHI 328: Philosophy and Film**
15. **PHI 331: Philosophical Ethics**
16. **PHI 335: Early Modern Philosophy**
17. **PHI 338: Modern European Philosophy I (19th Century)**
18. **PHI 339: Modern European Philosophy II (20th Century)**
19. **PHI 365: Existentialism**
20. **PHI 386: Philosophical Classics: Nietzsche**

- 21. PHI 371: Postmodernism**
- 22. PHI 377/WMNS 377: Philosophy and Feminism**
- 23. PHI 485: Seminar: “Hermeneutics: The Problem of Interpretation.”**
- 24. PHI 485: Seminar: Nietzsche**

Independent Studies led: Early Modern Philosophy (Summer 2016); Feminism and Law (Fall 2013); Latin American Philosophy; Postmodern Aesthetics; E.M. Cioran; Heidegger’s *Being and Time* (division one); Lacan (*Seminar XI*) and Zizek’s *The Sublime Object of Ideology*.

Adjunct Instructor, University of Wisconsin, River Falls

Spring 2008-Spring 2013

PHI 151: Living Issues in Philosophy

PHI 220: Bioethics (Spring 2014)

PHI 310/ART 310: Philosophy and History of Art

Adjunct Professor, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN

Fall 2007

PHI 115: Philosophy of the Human Person

Full Course Responsibility, SUNY-Stony Brook

Fall 2002 – 2004

DISSERTATION

Heraclitus On Meaning and Knowledge Legitimation

Director: Peter Manchester

Committee: Ed Casey, Don Idhe, Walter Brogan (Villanova University)

This dissertation offers a new account of the context in which Heraclitus develops his views on meaning and knowledge. The frame of mythic thinking affords insight into important dimensions of Heraclitus's thought, particularly the simultaneous holism and fragmentation that characterized his ideas on the world and on wisdom. In a concluding discussion, I argue that Heraclitus’s unique aphoristic style also captures this fragmentation within the whole, which allows (and has allowed) future interpreters continually and fruitfully to re-interpret his fragments.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

University Liberal Education Committee 2024-
 Institutional Review Board, 2016- present
 Philosophy Club Faculty Advisor 2015-present
 Health Humanities Advisory Board, 2019-present
 Faculty Mentor, 2019, 2023

Academic Strategic Plan Advisory Group, 2020-2022
University Senate, Fall 2018
Interim Faculty Advisor Student Office of Sustainability Spring 18
SREU Review Committee, (Chair, starting 2016) 2015-2018
URSCA Journal Working Group, 2014-2015
Academic Staff Personnel Committee, 2012-2013.
Artifact Reading for the Critical Multicultural Learning Credit, Summer 2013.
Artifact Reading for the Global Learning Credit, Summer 2012.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Wisconsin Philosophical Association. Organized Department to host WPA in April of 2016.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Member of Ethics Review Board (unpaid) Dove Healthcare West, Eau Claire 2014-2015

EDI TIER III PROJECTS

1. Development of PHIL 280: Philosophy of Race with SoTL grant, with Killeen Carter, 2019
2. Completing multiple assignments for Universal by Design, 2023
3. In progress: EDI Reading Group for Charles Mills *The Racial Contract*, 2024

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Tier 2 Workshops

1. Diversity Conversations on Campus (with Lee Mun Wah), 1/16/2018
2. Microaggressions, facilitated by Jodi Thesing-Ritter, 4/23/2018
3. Successful Teaching Practices: Student Leadership Roles in Collaborative Learning Projects, Facilitated by Eric Torres, 2/22/19
4. Diverse Voices Book Challenge, run by Katy Rand, completed 5/31/19
5. *The Hate U Give* Reading Group Series, Facilitated by Jackie Lee, 7/24/19
6. Developing Students' Civic Agency; Experiential Strategies for developing Inclusive, Culturally Agile Leaders, 9/11/19
7. Addressing Religious Identity in the Classroom, Facilitated by Dr. Steve Fink, 9/23/19
8. The Student Experience Training Series: Southeast Asian/Hmong American. Facilitated by Charles Chou Vue, 9/25/19
9. Identifying and Responding to the Mental Health Needs of UWEC Students: A Comprehensive Guide for Faculty and Staff, 11/6/2019
10. EDI Independent Film Viewing Series: Awake: A Dream from Standing Rock, 5/1/2020
11. Just Medicine: A Cure for Racial Inequality in American Health Care Reading Group, 6/2/2021

12. Transparent Design Framework Workshop, 5/31/2022
13. Racing Toward Justice: In Conversation with Jelani Cobb, 5/19/2023
14. Summer Learning: Supporting Student Success, 6/12/2023
15. At Risk Mental Health for Faculty and Staff, 7/24/2023
16. Institutionalizing Suffering: Examining the Relationship between U.S. Immigration Law and Social Desire, 9/27/2023
17. Inclusion and Access Lunch and Learn: Services for Students with Disabilities and Your Teaching, 10/2/2023
18. WPCA Conference Keynote Address: Mandela Barnes, 10/5/2023
19. WPCA Conference Keynote Address: Amanda Florence Garcia Goodenough, 10/6/2023
20. Reading Group: Chines Prodigal: A Memoir in Eight Arguments, 10/11/2023
21. Suicide Prevention Training for Faculty and Staff, 10/18/2023
22. The Gender Gap 101, 11/16/2023
23. Boxes and Walls: Unpack your bias & Break down stereotypes, 12/9/2023
24. EDI Independent Film Viewing Series: The US and the Holocaust, 12/9/2023
25. Diverse Voices Book Challenge, 12/9/2023
26. Digital Accessibility Challenge, 12/15/2023
27. EDI Asynchronous Reading Group: Demystifying Disability, 3/01/24

Primary Certificate Program in Logic Based Therapy. Institute of Critical Thinking. April 2017.

Attended the National Council on Undergraduate Research Conference on Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity in Arts and the Humanities, October 2014.

Online Course Development Workshop, UW-Eau Claire, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL), January 2012

Hybrid Course Development Workshop, UW-Eau Claire, CETL, Summer 2011

Integrative Learning Workshop for Bundle Course Development, UW-Eau Claire, CETL, Summer 2011

“Let Me Learn” Backwards Course Design Workshop, CETL, Spring 2011