

# Justin P. McBrayer

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## EDUCATION

PhD (Philosophy), University of Missouri, 2008  
MA (Philosophy), University of Missouri, 2005  
MA (Philosophy), University of Montana, 2003  
BS (Interdisciplinary), Berry College, 1998, *cum laude*

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Philosophy of Religion, Metaethics, Applied Ethics, Epistemology, Metaphysics

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor, Fort Lewis College, 2014-present (Assistant 2008-14)  
Fulbright Visiting Scholar, University of Innsbruck, Austria 2016-17  
Graduate Assistant, University of Missouri 2003-8  
Graduate Assistant, University of Montana 2002-3

## LEADERSHIP

Member, Board of Trustees, Fort Lewis College, 2014-16.  
Member, Executive Committee, Society of Christian Philosophers, 2015-present.  
Member, Vestry, Saint Mark's Episcopal Church, 2012-15.  
Chair of Mountain-Pacific Regional Committee, Society of Christian Philosophers, 2009-14.

## PHILOSOPHY IN THE PUBLIC SPHERE

"This Land is Your Land. Or is it?" *New York Times*, January 5, 2016  
(<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2016/01/05/this-land-is-your-land-or-is-it/>)

"Why Our Children Don't Believe in Moral Facts," *New York Times*, March 2, 2015  
(<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/03/02/why-our-children-dont-think-there-are-moral-facts/#more-156061>)

"Christianity, Homosexual Sex, and Sexism," *Think: Philosophy for Everyone* 11:32, 2012 pp. 47-63.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

*Skeptical Theism: New Essays* (with Trent Dougherty) Oxford University Press (2014).

*Introducing Ethics: A Critical Thinking Approach with Readings* (with Peter Markie) Oxford University Press (2013).

*A Companion to the Problem of Evil* (with Daniel Howard-Snyder) Blackwell (2013).

### Chapters

"Ignorance in Religious Epistemology," *Ignorance: Its Nature and Philosophical Relevance*, Peels & Blaauw (editors), Cambridge University Press (forthcoming).

"Skeptical Theism: An Historical View," *The History of Evil, Volume 6: Evil from the Mid-20<sup>th</sup>-Century to Today*, Meister & Taliaferro (series editors), Gellman (volume editor), Acumen Press (forthcoming).

"Counterpart & Appreciation Theodicies," *A Companion to the Problem of Evil*, McBrayer & Howard-Snyder (editors), Blackwell (2013).

### Refereed Journal Articles

"What Quantum Mechanics Doesn't Show," *Teaching Philosophy* 39:2, 2016 pp.163-176.

"The Wager Renewed: Believing in God is Good for You," *Science, Religion & Culture* 1:3, 2014 pp. 130-140.

"Are Skeptical Theists Really Skeptics? Sometimes Yes and Sometimes No," *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 72:1, 2012 pp. 3-16.

"Scepticism about the Argument from Divine Hiddenness," (with Philip Swenson) *Religious Studies* 48:2, 2012 pp. 129-150.

"Moral Perception and the Causal Objection," *Ratio* 23:3, 2010 pp. 291-307.

"A Limited Defense of Moral Perception," *Philosophical Studies* 149:3, 2010 pp. 305-320.

"Skeptical Theism," *Philosophy Compass* 5:7, 2010 pp. 611-623.

"CORNEA and Inductive Evidence," *Faith & Philosophy* 26:1, 2009 pp. 77-86.

"Rights, Indirect Harms, and the Non-identity Problem," *Bioethics* 22:6, 2008 pp. 299-306.

"Process Reliabilism, Virtue Reliabilism, and the Value of Knowledge," *The Southern Journal of Philosophy* 45:2 June 2007 pp. 289-302.

"Foetal Personhood, Vagueness and Abortion," *Australian Journal of Professional & Applied Ethics* 9:1 June 2007 pp. 15-30.

“Perceiving God: Epistemic Direct Realism and Religious Belief,” *Southwest Philosophy Review* 23:1 January 2007 pp. 17-26.

“On ‘A Molinist-Style Response to Schellenberg,’ by Michael Thune,” *Southwest Philosophy Review* 22:2 July 2006 pp. 71-77.

“Evidential Arguments from Evil and the ‘Seeability’ of Compensating Goods,” *Auslegung* 27:1 Winter/ Spring 2004 pp. 17-22.

### Encyclopedia Entries

“Skeptical Theism,” *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (<https://www.rep.routledge.com/articles/sceptical-theism>), Tim Crane (editor) and Michael Rea (area editor) 2015.

“A Posteriori Moral Knowledge,” *International Encyclopedia of Ethics* (Blackwell), edited by Hugh LaFollette (editor) 2013.

“Skeptical Theism,” *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, edited by James Fieser (ISSN 2161-0002, <http://www.iep.utm.edu/skept-th/>) 2010.

### Book Reviews

*Challenges to Moral and Religious Belief: Disagreement and Evolution*, edited by Michael Bergmann and Patrick Kain, reviewed (with Theresa O’Hare) in *Analysis* (2015).

*Religious Faith and Intellectual Virtue*, edited by Laura Frances Callahan and Timothy O’Connor, reviewed (with Douglas Moore) in *Religious Studies* (2014).

*Pragmatic Encroachment, Religious Belief, and Practice* by Aaron Rizzieri, reviewed in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (<http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/47035-pragmatic-encroachment-religious-belief-and-practice/>) (2013).

*What’s Wrong with Homosexuality?* by John Corvino, reviewed (with Caleb Ontiveros) in *Social Theory & Practice* 40:1 pp. 159-165 (2013).

## PRESENTATIONS

### Refereed Presentations

“Empirical Debunking Arguments and Second-Order Implications,” Workshop on Explaining Religion. Cognitive Science of Religion and Naturalism, VU University, Netherlands; December 4-5, 2015.

“Evaluating Counterpart & Appreciation Theodicies,” Society of Christian Philosophers Mountain-Pacific Conference, Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA; January 13-14, 2012.

“Context & Skeptical Theism,” American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, San Diego, California; April 20-23, 2011.

“Moral Perception and the Causal Objection,” American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, Vancouver, British Columbia; April 8-12, 2009.

“Moral Responsibility, Coercion, and Guidance Control,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Chicago, Illinois; April 17-19, 2008.

“Perceiving God,” Southwestern Philosophical Society, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee; November 10-11, 2006.

“Virtue Reliabilism and the Value of Knowledge,” Central States Philosophical Society, Memphis, Tennessee; October 13-14, 2006.

“The Epistemic Role of Non-Experiential Looks,” (with Michael Hartsock) 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference, Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas; September 28-30, 2006.

“Divine Hiddenness and Human Infallibility,” Divine Hiddenness Conference, University of Colorado Philosophy Department and the Theology Forum, Boulder, Colorado; October 21-23, 2004.

### **Invited Presentations**

“Are Religion and Morality Tricks Evolution has Played on Us?” Berry College, Rome, Georgia; March 17, 2016.

“The Problem of Evil & Skeptical Theism,” Heythrop College, London, UK; June 20, 2015.

“Everybody Else is Thinking it, so Why Can’t We?” University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK; June 17, 2015.

“Why the Fact/Opinion Distinction is Confused and Harmful,” Evangel University, Springfield, Missouri; April 7, 2015.

“The Explanatory Objection to Moral Perception,” (author meets critics symposium) Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference (RoME), University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado; August 8-11, 2013.

“Divine Hiddenness & Theistic Defenses,” (plenary address) 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Intermountain West Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah; April 7-9, 2011.

“Emerging Confusion: The Emerging Church Movement,” and “Our Relationship to the Church,” Matter '09: A Creative Theology Event, Seminary of the Southwest, Austin, Texas; September 17-19, 2009.

“Van Inwagen on the Problem of Evil: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly,” (with Kenny Boyce) Second Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference, Baylor University, Waco, Texas; February 23-24, 2007.

“The Non-Identity Problem in Bioethics,” (keynote address with Peter Markie) Philosophical Collaborations: Value’s Facets, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois; March 2-3, 2006.

## CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

Commentator on “The Politics of Ethical Expertise,” by Matt Stichter (Washington State), American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Chicago, Illinois; March 3-5, 2016.

Commentator on “Faith as Active Commitment,” by Daniel McKaughan (Boston College), The Nature of Faith Conference, St. Louis, Missouri, November 13-16, 2014.

Participant (1 of 20) in the Central European University Summer Program on Moral Intuitionism: Epistemological and Methodological Aspects (<http://www.summer.ceu.hu/intuitionism-2013>); Budapest, Hungary; July 22-31, 2013.

Participant (1 of 20) in the Templeton Foundation Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion, U of St. Thomas (<http://www.stthomas.edu/philosophy/templeton/project.html>); St. Paul, Minnesota; \$3K stipend, June 17-July 6, 2012.

Participant (1 of 10) in the Skeptical Theism and Explanatory Arguments from Evil workshop, University of Notre Dame; South Bend, Indiana; \$500 honorarium, March 30-31, 2012.

Participant (1 of 15) in the Templeton Foundation Knowing in Religion & Morality workshop led by Michael Bergmann ([www.knowinginreligionandmorality.com](http://www.knowinginreligionandmorality.com)); West Lafayette, Indiana; \$5k stipend, June 8-24, 2011.

Chair for Yasha Rohwer on “Lucky Understanding Without Knowledge,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Minneapolis, Minnesota; March 30-April 2, 2011.

Commentator on “Plantinga’s *de jure* Objection to Religious Belief: An Evidentialist Reply,” by Todd Long (California Polytechnic State University), Second Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference, Baylor University, Waco, Texas, February 23-24, 2007.

Commentator (with Kenny Boyce) on “The Conditionals of Deliberation” by Keith DeRose (Yale University), First Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, January 27-28, 2006.

Commentator on “A Molinist-Style Response to Schellenberg” by Michael Thune (Purdue University), Southwestern Philosophical Society, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, November 11-13, 2005.

## TEACHING

### Philosophy, Lower-Division

Introduction to Philosophy  
Ethics  
Introductory Bioethics  
Logic  
Business Ethics  
History of Ancient Western  
Philosophy

### Honors

Utopia  
The Thought of C.S. Lewis

### Religious Studies

Islam & the West  
Global Christianity  
The Atonement

### Philosophy, Upper-Division

Epistemology  
Metaphysics  
Philosophy of Religion  
Science & Religion  
History of Modern Philosophy  
Advanced Logic  
Undermining Explanations  
Modality & Ultimate Explanation

### Study Abroad

Philosophy in Italy  
French Philosophy  
Greek Philosophy  
Environmental Ethics in Costa Rica

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee: *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Episteme*, *Erkenntnis*, *Ethical Theory & Moral Practice*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Faith & Philosophy*, *Journal of Analytic Theology*, *Journal of the APA*, *Mind*, *Minds & Machines*, *Oxford Bibliographies*, *Oxford University Press*, *Philosophia*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Religious Studies*, *Res Philosophica*, *Sophia*, Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference, Society of Christian Philosophers.

Organizer of the First Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference at the University of Missouri, January 27-28, 2006.

## COLLEGE SERVICE

Faculty Senate, Fort Lewis College (senator 2012-present, Vice President 2013-14).

First-year Experience Taskforce (chair), Fort Lewis College, 2012-2013.

Strategic Planning Committee, Fort Lewis College, 2011.

Academic Standards Committee, Fort Lewis College (member 2011-13; co-chair 2013-2016).

Representative to state-wide, faculty-to-faculty curriculum forum, Fort Lewis College, October 13-15, 2011.

Faculty Advisor for Philosophy Club, Fort Lewis College, 2011-2014.

Coordinator for Religious Studies program, Fort Lewis College, 2009-2015.

Honors Council, Fort Lewis College, 2009-2012.

Faculty-in-Residence, Animas Hall, Fort Lewis College, 2009-2014.

Search Committees, Fort Lewis College: Philosophy 2011 (chair), Art History 2011, Philosophy 2012 (chair), Art & Interactive Design 2013.

Founder/Administrator of philosophy blog, University of Missouri 2005-2007.

### **AWARDS & GRANTS**

Explaining Religion: A Planning Grant (\$134,763) John Templeton Foundation, 2016-17.

Fulbright Visiting Scholar (€16,800) University of Innsbruck, Austria, October 2016-February 2017.

New Faculty Teaching Award (\$1,000) Fort Lewis College, 2012.

Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion (\$3,000) University of St. Thomas, June 17-July 6, 2012.

Knowing in Religion & Morality (\$5,000) Purdue University, June 8-24, 2011.

Faculty Development Grant (+/- \$1,000) Fort Lewis College 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016.

Graduate School's Superior Graduate Student Award (1 of 3 chosen University-wide), University of Missouri 2005-06.

A.C. Benjamin Award, University of Missouri 2004 and 2007.

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

American Philosophical Association, 2003-present

Society of Christian Philosophers, 2002-present

American Association of University Professors, 2015-present

Society for Philosophy of Religion, 2015-present