

Michael Otteson

Curriculum Vitae

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Utah State University, Temporary Assistant Professor, August 2020 - present

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Kansas, 2020
Dissertation: ‘An Interpretation and Defense of Aristotle’s Theory of Well-Being’
Committee: Thomas Tuozzo (Chair), Dale Dorsey (Co-Chair), Sarah Robins,
Brad Cokelet, Erin Frykholm, Craig Jendza
- M.A. Philosophy, University of Kansas, 2016
3rd Year Paper: ‘Contemplation, Practical Rationality, and Normative Justification
in Aristotle’s Ethics’
- B.A. Utah State University, 2012
Majored in History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies (Minors in Latin and
Greek)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Ancient Philosophy, Ethics, Well-Being

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Applied Ethics, History of Philosophy, Metaphysics, 19th Century German Philosophy

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

‘Courage and Aristotle’s Theory of the Good’ (*Journal of Value Inquiry*, 2022)

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY PUBLICATIONS

“Climate Change and the Extended Self” (*Blog of the APA*) Nov. 10th, 2022.
<https://blog.apaonline.org/2022/11/10/climate-change-and-the-extended-self/>

WORKS IN PROGRSS

‘A Critique of Kantian Perfectionism’

‘Justice and the Good Life in Aristotle’

‘The Fortunes of the Living and the Dead: Nicomachean Ethics and the Extended Self’

INVITED TALKS

2017: ‘Aristotle and the Return of Causal Powers’

Utah State University

2015: ‘Augustine and Constructive Memory’

Utah State University

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY/PARTICIPATION

Conferences Organized

2024: The Philosophy of Emerging Technologies (upcoming)

Utah State University (co-organizing with Brittany Gentry)

2024: Ethics and AI Spring Symposium (upcoming)

Utah State University (co-organizing with Brittany Gentry)

2016: Great Plains Philosophy Graduate Conference

The University of Kansas

Presentations

2024: ‘The Most We Can Do’ – Public Philosophy Group Session (upcoming)

Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Society

2023: ‘The Fortunes of the Living and the Dead’ (upcoming)

Workshop of the Utah Ancient Greek Philosophy Circle

2023: ‘Ok, But Can We Talk About ChatGPT’ - Panelist

Cogteacho Conference

2023: ‘Aristotle and the Extended Self’

Intermountain Philosophy Conference

2022: ‘Justice in Aristotle’s Theory of the Good’

Workshop of the Utah Ancient Greek Philosophy Circle

2022: ‘A Critique of Kantian Perfectionism’

Intermountain Philosophy Conference

2019: ‘Justice in Aristotle’s Theory of the Good’

Minnesota Philosophical Society Conference

2019: ‘Justice in Aristotle’s Theory of the Good’

The 4th Annual Conference of the Houston Community College Philosophy Department

2016: ‘Augustine and Constructive Memory’.

Iowa Philosophical Society, Simpson College

- 2012: 'God in Athens and Jerusalem.'
HΣΦ Classics Symposium, University of Utah
2011: 'God and the Devil: How They Differ.'
Utah State University LPSC Undergraduate Symposium

Comments

- 2019: Kevin Caldwell's 'Existentialism Beyond Humanism'
KU Undergraduate Philosophy Conference: The University of Kansas
2018: Quinlan C. Stein's 'Hope and Endless History'
KU Undergraduate Philosophy Conference: The University of Kansas

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2022-23 Contingent Faculty Member of the Year
Department of Communication Studies and Philosophy – Utah State University
2019 Templin Award: Travel Funds for Conference
Philosophy Department – University of Kansas
2018-2019 Graduate Instructor of the Year
Humanities Department – University of Kansas
2016 Templin Award: Travel Funds for Conferences
Philosophy Department – University of Kansas

GRANTS

- 2019: Center for Teaching Excellence Department Teaching Grant
Granted by Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Kansas
Primary Investigators: Dale Urie and Aimee Wilson

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Utah State University

Temporary Assistant Professor:

Social Ethics (Fall 2020, Spring [Two Sections], Fall 2021, Spring 2022 [Two Sections],
and Fall 2022 [Two Sections], Spring 2023, Fall 2023)
Ancient Philosophy (Fall 2020 and Spring 2022)
Ethics and Economic Life (Fall 2020, Fall 2022, Spring 2023)
Virtue Ethics (Spring 2021)
Ethics (Spring and Fall 2021)
Introduction to Philosophy (Fall 2021)
Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (Fall 2022, Fall 2023)
Modern Philosophy (Spring 2023)
Bennion Teacher's Workshop: Athenian Democracy and Its Legacy (Assistant Instructor)
Summer 2023

Political Philosophy (Fall 2023)

University of Kansas

Instructor:

Western Civilization I (Fall and Spring 2016 to 2019)
Introduction to Ethics (Summers 2016 and 2017)

Teaching Assistant and Discussion Leader:

Introduction to Ethics (Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2019)
Philosophical Communication, University of Kansas (Fall 2015 and Spring 2016)
Introduction to Philosophy (Fall 2013 and Spring 2014)

Athletic Department Tutor

Spring 2016-Spring 2020

I tutored athletes at the University of Kansas from a variety of sports for a wide range of courses. The list includes history, philosophy, religious studies, sociology, and anthropology. My work involved meeting with one to three students at a time to discuss course content, assignments, lectures, readings, and exams.

Utah State University

Graduate Assistant:

United States Institutions (Spring 2013)
Civilization: Humanities (Fall 2012)

Undergraduate Teaching Fellow:

Civilization: Humanities (Spring 2012)
Greek History (Fall 2011)
Civilization: Humanities (Spring 2011)

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

2015: Great Plains Philosophy Graduate Conference Referee
University of Kansas

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ETE Conference (Contribute): August 1, 2023
ETE Learning Specialist (Implement): April 21, 2022

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/OUTREACH

Founder, Host of Aggie Agora Podcast (2021 – present)

Aggie Agora is a podcast series dedicated to examining the intersection of philosophy and public life. It focuses on a wide array of topics relating to politics, science, altruism, religion, ethics, and other topics of local importance. It aims to create a public space for discourse among the broader Cache Valley and Logan communities that includes both academics and non-academics alike.

Co-Founder, Lawrence Talks and Lawrence Talks Podcast (2018 – 2020)

From the website: “Lawrence Talks! is an interdisciplinary initiative that has as its primary goal to make the research and insights of academics of varying backgrounds, interests, and experience accessible to the public. LT also seeks to apply philosophical rigor to both local and national issues in such a way that can be understood and even utilized by non-academics. It hopes to serve as a central point for open and deliberative discussions.”

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Latin (Reading Comprehension)

Greek (Reading Comprehension)

GRADUATE COURSEWORK IN PHILOSOPHY – UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

Ancient Philosophy

Ancient Theories of Causation (Thomas Tuozzo)

Early Greek Philosophy (Thomas Tuozzo)

The Philosophy of Plato (Thomas Tuozzo)

Plato: Phaedo (Thomas Tuozzo)

The Philosophy of Aristotle (Thomas Tuozzo)

Ethics & Well-Being

Tutorial – Reasons and Persons (Dale Dorsey)

Topics in Ethics: Practical Reason (Dale Dorsey)

Aesthetics (Lara Giordano)

Rational Choice Theory (Ben Eggleston)

Metaphysics

Topics in metaphysics: Philosophy of Memory (Sarah Robins)

Topics in metaphysics: Emergence (John Symons)

Topics in metaphysics: Causal Powers (Sarah Robins)

19th Century German Philosophy

Kant (Scott Jenkins)
Nietzsche (Scott Jenkins)

GRADUATE COURSES IN HISTORY – UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

Religion and the Concept of Time (Philip Barlow)
History and Theory (James Sanders)
Historical Methods and Research (Kyle Bulhuis)

REFERENCES

Thomas Tuozzo
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