

Department of Philosophy & Religion
New Jersey City University
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SCOTT O'CONNOR

Appointments

- 2022–present NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY
Director, General Education Program (acting from 2021-2022)
Jersey City, NJ
- 2022–present NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY
Chair, Department of Philosophy & Religion (interim from 2019-2020)
Jersey City, NJ
- 2020–present NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Jersey City, NJ
- 2014–2020 NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY
Assistant Professor of Philosophy
Jersey City, NJ

Education

- 2013 **Ph.D, Philosophy**
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- 2010 **M.A, Philosophy**
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- 2006 **B.Phil, Philosophy**
Oxford University, Oxford, U.K.
- 2004 **B.A, Mental and Moral Science (1st Class)**
Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

SUMMER PROGRAMS

- 2008 **Basic Latin**
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- 2007 **Basic Greek**
Latin/Greek Institute, CUNY Graduate Center & Brooklyn College, NYC, NY

Areas of Specialization

The History of Philosophy, Ancient Philosophy (especially Aristotle), Metaphysics

Areas of Competency

Ethics, Early Modern Philosophy, The Philosophy of Mind

Publications

PEER REVIEWED MARKED WITH *. INVITED MARKED WITH †.

- 2020 “Aristotle’s *Theory of Bodies* by Christian Pfeiffer.” *Journal of the History of Philosophy*† vol. 58 (1), pp. 167-168*
- 2018 “On Persistence in Aristotle.” *Ergo* vol. 5 (20), pp.540-573*
- 2017 “The Eleatic Challenge in Aristotle’s *Physics* I.8.” *Rhizomata, A Journal for Ancient Philosophy and Science* vol. 5 (1), pp. 25-50*
- 2015 “The Subjects of Natural Generations in Aristotle’s *Physics* I.7.” *Apeiron, A Journal for Ancient Philosophy and Science* vol. 48 (1), pp. 45-75*

Presentations

INVITED MARKED WITH *. REFEREED MARKED WITH †.

- 2021 “Comments on Joshua Mendelsohn’s *Aristotle on Necessity in Zoology*.” *Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association*. January*
- 2020 “Comments on James Finley’s *Two Views of Aristotle on the Infinite*.” *Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association, Philadelphia*. January*
- 2019 “Comments on Evan Rodriguez’s *Aristotle on the Problem of First Principles*.” *Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, Vancouver, Canada*. April*
- 2019 “On Some Changing Stuff In Aristotle.” *Ancient Philosophy Workshop, NYU, NY*. March*
- 2018 “Living, Learning, & Loving, Lessons from an Urban Interdisciplinary Honors Core.” *National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference, Boston, MA*. November†
- 2018 “Aristotle on Monism and Pluralism in *On Generation and Corruption* I.” *Aristotle and Aristotelianism Conference, Marquette University, WI*. June†
- 2017 “Aristotle’s Objection to Pluralism in *Generation and Corruption* I.” *Dublin Graduate Conference in Ancient Philosophy, “Physis and Psyche in Ancient Philosophy, Causes, Generation, and Change”, TCD/UCD, Dublin, Ireland*. March†
- 2016 “Substantial Change and Alteration in Aristotle’s *Generation and Corruption* I.4.” *Ancient Philosophy Workshop, NYU, NY*. May*
- 2016 Comments on Thomas Tuozzo’s, “The Indispensability of Incidental Causes in *Physics* VIII 4.” *Ancient Philosophy Workshop, Rice University, TX*. February*
- 2016 Comments on Jeremy Kirby’s, “Aristotle’s Clincher, *Metaphysics* 1006b28-1006b34.” *Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association, Washington, DC*. January*
- 2015 “The Principles and Elements of Nature in Aristotle’s *Physics* I.” *The Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Fordham University, NY*. October†
- 2015 “Some Stuff and Things.” *Adventures in Philosophy, NJCU, NJ*. April
- 2015 “The Generation and Destruction of Matter in Aristotle’s *Physics* I.9.” *The Ancient Philosophy Society, Lexington, KY*. April†
- 2015 “The Eleatic Challenge in Aristotle’s *Physics* I.8.” *Ancient Philosophy Workshop, UT Austin*. February†

- 2015 “The Eleatic Challenge in Aristotle’s *Physics* I.8”. *Ancient Philosophy Work in Progress*, NYU, NY. January
- 2014 “Aristotle’s Criticism of Plato’s First Principles in *Physics* I.9”. *The Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy*, Fordham University, NY. October†
- 2014 “Essence and Persistence in Aristotle”. *Aristotle and Aristotelianism Conference*, Marquette University, WI. June†
- 2014 Comments on Pavle Stojanovic’s, “Non-unified Objects As Proper Individuals in Stoicism”. *Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association*, San Diego, CA. April*
- 2013 “Explaining Persistence in Aristotle’s *Physics* I”. *Louisiana State University*, LA. April*
- 2013 “The Subjects of Natural Generations in Aristotle’s *Physics* I”. *The College of St. Benedict & Saint John’s University*, MI. January*
- 2011 “The Persisting Simple in Aristotle’s *Physics* I.7”. *Aristotle and Aristotelianism Conference*, Marquette University, WI. June†
- 2011 Comments on Evan Keeling’s, “Unity in Aristotle’s *Metaphysics* H.6”. *Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association*, San Diego. April*
- 2010 Comments on Philip Corkum’s, “Aristotle on Reference and Generality”. *Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association*, San Francisco. April*
- 2010 “The Persisting Simple in Aristotle’s *Physics* I.7”. *Ancient Philosophy Graduate Conference*, Princeton University, NJ. April†
- 2009 Comments on Ursula Coope’s, “Aristotle on the Infinite”. *Ancient Philosophy Speaker Series*, Cornell University, NY. September*

Teaching

2014–present NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY

Department of Philosophy & Religion

- PHIL 408 – Independent Study, Ancient Greek Ethics (summer, 2016)
- PHIL 408 – Independent Study, Philosophy of Mathematics (spring, 2015)
- PHIL 390 – Pandemic Ethics (spring, 2022)
- PHIL 313 – Time (spring & fall, 2019)
- PHIL 236 – Self-I as Mind (most semesters, online & in-person)
- PHIL 234 – A Survey of Ancient Greek Philosophy (biannually)
- PHIL 205 – Metaphysics (biannually)
- PHIL 208 – Great Philosophers, Plato’s *Theaetetus* (fall, 2018)
- PHIL 207 – Happiness, Friendship, & the Good Life, Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics* (spring, 2016)
- PHIL 140 – The Examined Life (most semesters)
- PHIL 120 – Critical Thinking (spring & fall, 2015)
- PHIL 101 – Persons & Problems (most semester from 2013–2017)

Honors Program

- HON 360 – Upper Level Seminar, Greek Philosophy (spring 2018 with study abroad to Greece, spring 2020, spring 2023)
- HON 202 – Culture, Ideas, & Values IV, The Philosophy of Time (fall, 2016)

HON 105 – Honors Ethics (spring 2022)

2010–2013 CORNELL UNIVERSITY (JOHN S. KNIGHT INSTITUTE FOR WRITING IN THE DISCIPLINES)
FIRST-YEAR WRITING SEMINAR – Aristotle’s *Physics*
FIRST-YEAR WRITING SEMINAR – Generation & Destruction (3 semesters)
FIRST-YEAR WRITING SEMINAR – Time

Service

NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY

2023–present MEMBER, Student Life Cycle Success Committee
2023–present CHAIRPERSON, Senate General Education Committee
2023–present MEMBER, DFW Task Force
2023–present MEMBER, Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee.
2023–present MEMBER, Ad Hoc Steering Committee on Academic Integrity
2023–present MEMBER, Steering Board for Professional Development Institute
2022–2023 CHAIRPERSON, General Education Program Review Committee
2022–present MEMBER, NJCU Civic Engagement Working Group
2022–present MEMBER, ACE Learner Success Lab, Curriculum Working Group
2022–present MEMBER, General Education Committee on Assessment & Policy
2022 NJCU TEAM LEADER, AAC&U Institute on General Education and Assessment
2021–present MEMBER, General Education Curriculum Committee
2021–present MEMBER, Strategic Enrollment Planning Group, Undergraduate Recruitment
2020 MEMBER, University Strategic Planning Council
2022–present SENATOR, Department of Philosophy & Religion representative to the University Senate (also 2018–2021)
2021–2022 ALTERNATE SENATOR, Department of Philosophy & Religion representative to the University Senate (also 2014–2018)
2018–2019 MEMBER, Middle States Accreditation Self-Study Group, Ethics and Integrity Standard
2014–present CHAIR, Philosophy & Religion Department Curriculum Committee
2018–present MEMBER, University Honors Program Committee
2018 MEMBER, Honors College Committee
2014–2017 MEMBER, College of Arts and Science Honors Program Committee
2015–2016 MEMBER, Provost’s Honors Expansion Committee
2016 MEMBER, SGO Global Citizens Scholarship Application Review Committee
2016–present ORGANIZER, Ethics Workshops, Interdisciplinary Colloquia
2016 MEMBER, African and African American Studies Program Search Committee
2015 ORGANIZER, Adventures in Philosophy, Undergraduate Philosophy Conference

PROFESSION

2017–present REFEREE, *Apeiron*, *Epoché*, *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Philosophical Studies*

OTHER

- 2009–2010 MEMBER, Philosophy Department Search Committee, Cornell University
- 2007–2010 CO-ORGANIZER, Cornell Graduate Speaker Series
- 2006–2007 REPRESENTATIVE, Graduate Student Association, Cornell University
- 2005, 2004 REFEREE, Oxford University Graduate Conference

Other Experience

- 2010–2013 **Graduate Resident Fellow**, Alice Cook House, Cornell University
 A GRF lives in a Residential Hall and supports the House Professor-Dean, Assistant Dean, and House Fellows in creating a positive, vibrant and academically engaging residential community; serves as mentor and role model to undergraduate residents; and serves in a leadership role for academic enrichment by promoting a variety of programs and activities.

Awards

- 2020 Competitive sabbatical program.
- 2018 Research Course Release, College of Arts and Science, NJCU (fall, 2019; spring, 2017; spring, 2015)
- 2017 Excellence in Teaching Award, National Society of Leadership and Success.
- 2016 Separately Budgeted Research Grant, NJCU
- 2015 Mini-Grant, NJCU
- 2011 Pedagogy Group Grant, The Knight Institute, Cornell University.
- 2009/2006 Sage Fellowship, Cornell University.
- 2009 Humanities Dissertation Group Grant, Cornell University.
- 2007 Tuition Scholarship, CUNY, Summer Latin/Greek Institute.
- 2005 The Hugh Pilkington Scholarship, Christ Church, Oxford University.
- 2005 Prendergast Bequest, Oxford University.
- 2004 Tuition Scholarship, Department of Philosophy, Oxford University
- 2004 AHRC Research Preparation Master's Scheme, U.K. National Award.
- 2004 Wray Prize (dissertation prize, shared), Trinity College, Dublin.
- 2003 1st Class Book Award, Trinity College, Dublin.
- 2002 John Henry Bernard Prize, Trinity College, Dublin.

Languages

Classical Greek (advanced reading)