

# THOMAS METCALF

## CONTACT

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Colorado, Boulder, 2009.

B.A., Philosophy, University of Washington, Seattle, 2004

## SELECTED ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Spring Hill College, 2021-present

Assistant Professor, Spring Hill College, 2016-21

Instructor, Spring Hill College, 2015-16

Instructor, University of Colorado, 2009-15

## SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE AND SERVICE POSITIONS

Chair, Curriculum Committee (2022-present)

Accreditation Assistant to the Provost (2021-present)

Faculty Director of Assessment (2020-present)

Program Director, Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (2020-present)

## TEACHING

Total: 102 distinct sections: 40 upper-division, 62 lower-division; 12 fully online, 3 hybrid. Courses taught (\* = new course developed):

Lower-Division		Upper-Division	
<i>Course</i>	<i>Sections</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Sections</i>
Environmental Justice	1	Biomedical Ethics	1
Introduction to Ethics	15	Business Ethics	26
Introduction to Logic	4	The Election*	1
Introduction to Philosophy	19	Ethics and the College Experience*	1
Philosophy and Religion	1	Markets and Morality*	7
Philosophy and the Sciences	3	Science and Religion*	1
Philosophy and Society	10	The Meaning of Life*	1
Today's Moral Issues*	1	War and Morality	1

## REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

1. "The Case for Philosophy as a General-Education Requirement," *Teaching Philosophy* (forthcoming).

2. "Against Indifference Objections to the Fine-Tuning Argument," *Southwest Philosophy Review* (forthcoming).
3. "[The Nomological Argument for the Existence of God](#)," *Noûs* (early online) (with Tyler Hildebrand).
4. "[On Friederich's New Fine-Tuning Argument](#)," *Foundations of Physics* 51, no. 2 (2021).
5. "[An Axiological-Trajectory Theodicy](#)," *Sophia* 59, no. 3 (September 2020).
6. "[Gun Violence as Industrial Pollution](#)," *Public Affairs Quarterly* 32, no. 2 (April 2018).
7. "[Fine-Tuning the Multiverse](#)," *Faith and Philosophy* 35, no. 1 (January 2018).
8. "[An Epistemic-Virtue Solution to Some Peer Disagreements in Philosophy](#)," *Southwest Philosophy Review* 34, no. 1 (January 2018).
9. "[On Gödel's Ontological Argument](#)," *Inference* 3, no. 2 (2017).
10. "[Ontological Parsimony, Erosion, and Conservatism](#)," *Metaphilosophy* 47, no. 4-5 (2016), pp. 700-18.
11. "[The Under-Determination Objection to Deductive Bare-Difference Arguments](#)," *Southwest Philosophy Review* 29, no. 1 (2013), pp. 107-19.
12. "[Entailment and Ontological Arguments](#)," *Philo* 8 (2006), pp. 131-33.
13. "[An Argument from Non-Gratuitous Evil](#)," in Michael Martin and Ricki Monnier (eds.), *The Improbability of God* (New York: Prometheus, 2006), pp. 328-37.
14. "[Omniscience and Maximal Power](#)," *Religious Studies* 40 (2004), pp. 289-306.

#### **RECENT AND FORTHCOMING REFEREED CONFERENCE-PRESENTATIONS**

1. "Basic Income, Armchair Essentialism, and the Moral Value of Work," Main-Program Colloquium, American Philosophical Association, Central Division, February 2022.
2. "Fine-tuning, the Multiverse, and the Total Evidence Requirement," Main-Program Colloquium, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, January 2022.
3. "Against Indifference Objections to the Fine-Tuning Argument," Southwestern Philosophical Society Conference, October 2021.
4. "Diachronic Fine-Tuning and Statistical Independence," Main-Program Colloquium, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, March 2021.
5. "The Divine Inscrutability Objection to the Fine-Tuning Argument," Main-Program Colloquium, American Philosophical Association, Central Division, February 2020.
6. "The Axiological-Trajectory Theodicy," Main-Program Colloquium, American Philosophical Association, Central Division, February 2019.
7. "Do Educators Build Human Capital? Responding to the 'Mere Signaling' Critique of Higher Education," University of South Alabama Conference on Teaching and Learning, May 2018.
8. "Why Anselmian Theists Should Reject Modal S5," Alabama Philosophical Society, September 2018.
9. "Do Educators Build Human Capital? Responding to the 'Mere Signaling' Critique of Higher Education," University of South Alabama Conference on Teaching and Learning, May 2018.
10. "An Epistemic-Virtue Solution to Some Peer-Disagreements in Philosophy," Southwestern Philosophical Society Conference, November 2017.
11. "Rags-to-Riches Worlds: A New Theodicy and Argument for Theism," Alabama Philosophical Society, September 2017.
12. "Epistemic Responsibility and the Moral-Realist Majority," Philosophers' Cocoon Conference, October 2016.

13. "Gun Violence as a Negative Externality of Gun Production," Alabama Philosophical Society, September 2016.
14. "Condorcet's Jury-Theorem, Epistemic Virtue, and the Moral-Realist Majority," Main-Program Presentation, Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, August 2016.
15. "Epistemic Responsibility and the Moral-Realist Majority," Alabama Philosophical Society, October 2015.
16. "Fine-Tuning the Fine-Tuning Argument," Society of Christian Philosophers, Midwest Regional Conference, March 2015.
17. "Ontological Parsimony and the Erosion of Prior Ontologies," Alabama Philosophical Society, October 2014.
18. "Vote Weighting and Consent Expression: A Modest Proposal," Main-Program Colloquium, Pacific-Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2014.
19. "Induction in Applied Ethics Variant Case Arguments," Main-Program Colloquium, Eastern-Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, December 2013.
20. "Animal Rights Theory, Humane Omnivorism, and Bringing Happy Lives into Existence," Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference, October 2013.
21. "Ontological Parsimony and Erosion," Main-Program Colloquium, Pacific-Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, March 2013.
22. "Does Maximal Greatness Require Ethical Powers?," Society for Christian Philosophers Mountain-Pacific Region Conference, March 2013.
23. "The Underdetermination Objection to Deductive Bare-Difference Arguments," Southwest Philosophical Association Conference, November 2012.
24. "Deontology Monsters, Particularism, and Counterpossible Counterexamples in Normative Ethics," Main-Program Colloquium, Pacific-Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2012.
25. "Against the Technique of Variant Cases: The Problem of Applied Ethics Induction," Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference, October 2011.
26. "Vote Attenuation: A Modest Proposal," International Social Philosophy Conference, North American Society for Social Philosophy Conference, July 2011.
27. "Prospects for an Empirical Normative Realism," Society for Exact Philosophy Conference, May 2011.

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Philosophy of Religion  
 Philosophy of Science  
 Social and Political

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE**

Epistemology  
 Logic and Critical Thinking  
 Philosophy of Law

**PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY**

1. "[The Nomological Argument for the Existence of God](#)" (with Tyler Hildebrand), *Big Think*, 2021
2. "[A Multiverse of Possibilities](#)," *Arc Digital*, 2019.
3. "[Our Life in a Computer Simulation](#)," *Arc Digital*, 2019.
4. Extensive contributions to [1000-Word Philosophy: An Introductory Anthology](#) (2011-present).

**GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Pathways to Purpose Course Proposal and Course Release (college-wide competition, 2017)

Enhancing Diversity through Outreach and Action Fellowship (university-wide competition, 2013)

**ACADEMIC REFERENCES***Co-author:*

Tyler Hildebrand  
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 Dalhousie University  
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**ADMINISTRATIVE AND SERVICE REFERENCES***Program and Core Assessment:*

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*Quality Enhancement Plan:*

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**STUDENT REFERENCES**

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