

DOUGLAS A. SHEPARDSON

Curriculum Vitae

02/16/1989

Van Buren Avenue

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Last Updated: 10/14/25

AOS: Ancient Philosophy, Epistemology

AOC: Early Modern, Medieval (esp. Augustine), Ethics, Existentialism, Metaphysics, Phil of Mind, Phil of Religion, Phil of AI/VR

Employment

2023-2025. Visiting Assistant Professor. Hunter College, CUNY. Department of Philosophy.

2022-2023. Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow. Fordham University. Department of Philosophy.

Education

2025-2026. Visiting Scholar. New York University.

2022. Ph.D., Philosophy. Fordham University.

Dissertation: "The Development of Plato's Theory of Recollection"

Committee: Dana Miller (chair), Brian Johnson, Reed Winegar, Stephen Grimm, and Jessica Moss (NYU, external examiner)

2014. M.A., Church History. Union Theological Seminary.

Thesis: "*Archē* and *Apokatastasis* as Philosophical Homonymns in Origen of Alexandria" (Advisor: John Anthony McGuckin)

2012. B.A., Philosophy. Long Island University — Post Campus.

Summa Cum Laude

Publications

2024. "The Many Do Not Recollect: The Nature and Scope of Recollection in Plato's *Phaedrus*." *Apeiron* 57 (4): 641-660.

2024. "Nativism and Plato's Epistemology: Knowledge, Awareness, and Innate True Belief in the *Meno*." *History of Philosophy and Logical Analysis* 27: 1-29.

2023. "Varieties of Platonic Innatism: An Introduction through Early Modern Parallels." *Thaumazein: The Real and the Known, Comparisons between Ancient and Early Modern Epistemology* [special issue] 11 (1): 84-111.

2022. "*Anamnēsis* as *Aneuriskein*, *Anakinein*, and *Analambanein* in the *Meno*." *The Classical Quarterly* 72 (1): 138-51.

2022. "Why Are There Two Versions of Meno's Paradox?" *The Southern Journal of Philosophy* 60 (3): 465-86.

2017. "The Analogical Methodology of Augustine's *De Trinitate* and Plato's *Republic*." *Studia Patristica* LXXV: 109-119. [Proceedings of the Oxford Patristics Conference]

2016. "Maximus and Socrates on Trial: A Historic-Literary Consanguinity of Rebellion." *Forum Philosophicum* 20 (2): 171-182. [Special Issue on Maximus the Confessor]

2015. "Leaning on Jesus' Breast: An Apokatastatic Metaphor in Origen's *Commentary on*

John.” In Lev Smith (ed.), *Healing, Reconciliation, & Forgiveness*, Sophia Studies in Orthodox Theology Vol. 9. Theotokos Press: 135-46.

Works in Progress

- (1) “The Grammar of Recollection: The *Phaedo*’s ‘Forgetting or Having’ Argument (75c-76c) and the *Theaetetus*’ Aviary (196d-200d)” (in progress: 80% complete)
- (2) “Zeta 3 and the Role of Zeta 12 in Aristotle’s *Metaphysics*: The Non-Substantiality of Genera and the Form of Forms” (in progress: 80% complete)
- (3) “What Type of Nativism, If Any, Best Explains *Phaedo* 73c-75c?” (in progress: 80% complete)
- (4) “Thirty Minas, Votes, and Tyrants: A Defense of the Political Interpretation of Plato’s *Apology*” (in progress: 70% complete)
- (5) “The *Phaedo*’s Correction of the *Meno*: Recollection, Immortality, and Pre-Existence” (in progress: 50% complete)
- (6) “Knowledge Externalism in Plato’s *Phaedo*” (in progress: 50% complete)
- (7) “Plato’s Two-World Contextualism” (in progress: 50% complete)
- (8) *Anamnesis: Plato’s Theory of Recollection* (early stages)
- (9) *Reign of Terror* (a semi-fictional novel about Athens in 405-399. B.C.E.; early stages)

Conference Presentations

‘*’ indicates an invited presentation.

*2025. “The Grammar of Recollection: The *Phaedo*’s ‘Forgetting or Having Argument’ (75c-76c) and the *Theaetetus*’ Aviary (196d-200d).” NYU Ancient Philosophy Works in Progress Group. (Invited to present in December 2025)

2024. “Thirty Minas, Votes, and Tyrants: A Defense of the Political Interpretation of Plato’s *Apology*.” West Coast Plato Workshop (Seattle University).

*Also presented at Hunter College’s Philosopalooza Event in Fall 2023.

2021. “*Anamnēsis* as *Aneuriskein*, *Anakinein*, and *Analambanein*” (Recollection as Finding Again, Awakening, and Getting back). Fordham University, Spring Symposium.

*2020. “Knowledge or Content? *Epistēmē* in the *Phaedo*’s Recollection Argument.” Fordham University, “Brown Bag Talks” series.

*2020. “Philosophy and Memes: Cultivating the Imagination in Philosophy 1000.” *The Fordham Jesuit Pedagogy Conference*.

2020. “Innatism and Immortality in the *Meno*.” *The Marquette Graduate Philosophy Conference: Death and Dying*.

2018. “Augustine and Plato on Recollection: Essence, Genesis, and Mechanism.” *The 18th International Conference on Patristic Studies at Oxford University*. (Paper accepted; presentation declined due to severe family illness.)

2017. “Recollection and the Aviary.” The Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy’s 35th *International Conference for Ancient Greek Philosophy*, hosted by Fordham University.

2016. "Recollection and Innatism in the *Meno*." The Society of Ancient Greek Philosophy's 34th *International Conference for Ancient Greek Philosophy*, hosted by Fordham University.

2015. "The Good beyond Being in the *Republic* and the *Parmenides*." The Society of Ancient Greek Philosophy's 33rd *International Conference for Ancient Greek Philosophy*, hosted by Fordham University.

2015. "Through an Epistemic Magnifying Glass, Darkly: Augustine Soul-God and Plato's City-Soul Analogy." *The 17th International Conference on Patristic Studies at Oxford University*.

2014. "Maximus and Socrates on Trial: An Historic-Literary Consanguinity of Rebellion." The University of Athens' *Maximus the Confessor as a European Philosopher*, hosted by the Free University of Berlin.

Teaching Experience

As Instructor of Record:

At Hunter College, CUNY:

<i>Metaphysics</i> (contemporary)	Spring 2025
<i>Aristotle</i>	Spring 2024
<i>Plato</i>	Fall 2023 and Fall 2024
<i>Classical Greek Phil.</i>	Fall 2023 - Spring 2025 (4x)
<i>Ethics and Moral Judgement</i>	Fall 2023 - Spring 2025 (4x)
<i>Introduction to Philosophy</i>	Winter 2025

At Fordham University:

<i>AI, Sci-Fi, and Human Values:</i>	Summer 2023
<i>Philosophy and Relativism:</i>	Fall 2022
<i>Philosophical Ethics:</i>	Fall 2018-Spring 2023 (9x)
<i>Philosophy of Human Nature:</i>	Fall 2016-Spring 2021 (14x)

As Teaching Assistant:

Philosophy of Human Nature, Fordham University: 2015-2016 (2x)

Selected Honors, Fellowships, and Awards

- 2021-2022. Senior Teaching Fellowship. Fordham
- 2020-2021. Critical Thinker Award. Fordham Undergraduate Student Government
- 2020-2021. Teaching Associateship. Fordham
- 2020. Jesuit Pedagogy Seminar Fellow. Fordham
- 2019. Raymond T. Grontkowski Prize for Excellence in Teaching. Fordham
- 2018. Summer Research Fellowship. Fordham
- 2012. Academic Excellence Award (only three awarded per graduating class). LIU-Post
- 2012. Outstanding Senior Award. LIU-Post (Department of Philosophy)
- 2012. Outstanding Scholarship Research Award. LIU-Post

Languages

Ancient Greek (functionally fluent with around 40 pages of Plato and Aristotle)
French (I read 20-page articles in 4 hours with a dictionary; beginner-intermediate speaking)
Latin (“roots and stems” of elementary-intermediate reading)
Classical Hebrew (“roots and stems” of elementary-intermediate reading)

Service

To University:

2024. “Hawk Talk” Presentation (for prospective philosophy majors). Hunter College.
2024. Admitted Students’ Day. Hunter College.
2023. Philosopalooza Student Event Organization. Hunter College.
2020-2023. Organizer/Leader of Greek Philosophy Reading Group (in Greek). Fordham.
2011-2012. Philosophy Club President. LIU Post Philosophy Club.

To Profession:

2022-present. Peer reviewed 5x for top Philosophy/Classics/Theology journals. [Details intentionally kept vague for integrity of the peer review process on a public CV]
2022-present. Leaf Editor for “Plato: The Theory of Recollection.” PhilPapers.org.

To Community:

2022-present. Volunteer at St. Mary’s Children’s Hospital Fundraising event (1x yearly)
2016-17. Volunteer at the Woodbury JCC’s Autism Program. (Weekly for 6 months)
2012. Philosophy and Retirement presentation. Town of Huntington, NY Senior Center.

References

Dana Miller (Mentor, but now retired)
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Fordham University
Millerquis@gmail.com

David Bronstein
Senior Research Fellow
Notre Dame (Australia)
david.bronstein@nd.edu.au

Brian Johnson
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Fordham University
Brjohnson@fordham.edu

Jessica Moss
Professor of Philosophy
New York University
Jessica.Moss@nyu.edu

Stephen Grimm
Chair/Professor of Philosophy
Fordham University
Sgrimm@fordham.edu

Nicholas D. Smith
James F. Miller Professor of Humanities,
Philosophy, and Classics (Emeritus)
Lewis & Clark College
ndsmith@lclark.edu

Graduate Courses Taken

*Classes taken at Fordham University, unless otherwise noted.

‘†’ denotes an audited course.

History of Philosophy:
Intro to Plato (Daryl Tress)
Aristotelian Ethics (Dana Miller)

Alexandrian Theology (Joseph Leinhard)
Intro to Augustine (Christopher Cullen)
Plato's *Parmenides* (Daryl Tress)
Aquinas' Philosophy of God (Brian Davies)
John Locke in Context (Kathryn Tabb, Columbia University)
Plato's Later Ethics: the *Philebus* (Dana Miller)
Kant's First Critique (Reed Winegar)
Aristotle's *Metaphysics*: Book Zeta (Marko Malink, NYU)
Plotinus (Dana Miller)†
The Dialogues of Plato (Dana Miller)†
Philosophy in the Islamic World (Bligh Somma)†

Contemporary Philosophy:

Hermeneutics (Crina Gswandnter)
Analytic Metaphysics (Amy Seymour)
Logic (w/ Dominic Balestra)
American Philosophy (Judith Jones)
Normative Ethical Theories (Jada Strabbing)
Philosophy of Religion (Brian Davies)
Phil. of A.I. (David Chalmers and Michael Strevens, NYU; 2nd half)†

Ancient Greek:

Biblical Greek 1 (Daniel Pioske, Union Theological Seminary [UTS])
Biblical Greek 2 (Daniel Pioske, UTS)
Intermediate Biblical Greek: Luke (Aliou Niang, UTS)
Intermediate Greek: The Book of Acts (Sarah Peirce)†
Advanced Greek: Herodotus, Homer, and Plato's *Apology* (Sarah Peirce)†
Advanced Greek: Plato's *Crito* and Lucian's *Vera Historiae* (Sarah Peirce)†
Advanced Greek: Homer's *Iliad* (Matthew McGowan)†
(Numerous Greek reading groups)

Pedagogical Training:

Teaching Philosophy (Graduate Pedagogy Course)
Jesuit Pedagogy Seminar (Graduate Pedagogy Course)
Teaching Online Seminar (Graduate Pedagogy Course)

Comprehensive Exams:

Ancient Epistemology
Early Modern Epistemology
Contemporary Epistemology

Select Religious Studies Classes (at Union Theological Seminary):

Introduction to the Old Testament (David Carr)
Depth Psychology and Theology (Anne Ulanov)
History of Christianity: The First Millennium (100-1,000) (John McGuckin)
The Christian Doctrine of the Trinity: Origen to Augustine (John McGuckin)

Foundations in Christian Theology (Christopher Morse)
Gnosis (Nag Hammadi Scriptures) (Elizabeth Castelli, Barnard)
Sufism: Islamic Mysticism (Jerusha Rhodes)
The Byzantine Christian Tradition (John McGuckin)
Paul Tillich and the Future of Theology (John Thatamanil)
First Corinthians in Context [+ Greek group] (Aliou Niang)