

Jordan M. Rodgers

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AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

19th and 20th Century European Philosophy

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Ethics (including Business Ethics)
Philosophy of Religion
Philosophy and Literature

EDUCATION

University of Notre Dame

Ph.D. in philosophy, 2017

Dissertation Title: "Nietzsche and the Task of Philosophy"

Supervisor: Karl Ameriks

Committee: Fred Rush, Gary Gutting, Stephen Watson, David Dudrick (Colgate)

University of Kentucky

B.A., with honors in philosophy, 2007

EMPLOYMENT

2021	Visiting Assistant Professor, Misericordia University (Dallas, PA)
2021	Instructor (Moreau College Initiative, Holy Cross College (South Bend, IN)
2019-2020	Visiting Assistant Professor, McGowan Center for Ethics and Social Responsibility, King's College (Wilkes-Barre, PA)
2017-2019	Moreau Post-Doctoral Fellow, McGowan Center for Ethics and Social Responsibility, King's College

RESEARCH

Book

Marilynne Robinson's Worldly Gospel: A Philosophical Account (co-authored with Ryan Kemp; forthcoming 2022)

-In the book, we argue that the novels of Marilynne Robinson can be read as a substantial response to Nietzsche's critique of Christianity as life-denying. The book gives a long discussion of Nietzsche's critique and its place in 19th century criticisms of Christianity, and philosophical analyses of all four of Robinson's major novels (*Housekeeping*, *Gilead*, *Home*, *Lila*).

Peer-Reviewed Journal Article

"A Modern Polytheism? Nietzsche and James," in *The Journal of Speculative Philosophy* 34:1 (2020), 69—96.

-I argue that there is a non-deflationary, philosophically significant sense in which Nietzsche and James might be called polytheists: both advocate a life of openness and receptivity to multiple and potentially irreconcilable sources of inspiration that lie outside our conscious control.

Invited Article

"Teach Stories, not Debates: On MacIntyre's Suggestion to Use Novels to Teach Ethics," in *Expositions* 14:1 (2020), 77—85.

-This paper is part of an "Ethics in Focus" forum on the relevance of Alasdair MacIntyre's recent *Ethics in the Conflicts of Modernity* (2016) for ethics education. I argue that MacIntyre suggests that a morally serious course in ethics would make use of novels because they provide both what he calls "sociological self-knowledge" (roughly, the knowledge of how one's role(s) fit into a greater historical, social, political and economic context) and an account of what virtues individuals need in order to navigate the peculiar problems their society poses to them.

Book Reviews

Review of Michael Ure, *Nietzsche's The Gay Science: An Introduction* (Cambridge University Press, 2019); forthcoming in *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 58:3 (2020).

Review of Matthew Meyer, *Nietzsche's Free Spirit Works: A Dialectical Reading* (Cambridge University Press, 2019); in *The Agonist* 13:2 (2020), 182—190.

Review of Mark Jonas & Douglas Yacek, *Nietzsche's Philosophy of Education: Rethinking Ethics, Equality and the Good Life in a Democratic Age* (Routledge, 2018); in *Educational Theory* 69:5 (2020), 638—645.

PRESENTATIONS

"Oedipus Eyes and Odysseus Ears: Nietzsche on the Modern Naturalist Project," Holy Cross College, Worcester, MA, March 2021.

"'Our Fantastic Condition': Life-Affirmation in Friedrich Nietzsche and Marilynne Robinson," King's College, November 11, 2019. (Invited)

"Nietzsche on Educators as Creators of Value." Meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society of North America, University of St. Mary of the Lake, October 2018.

"Nietzsche's Critique of Secularity." Wheaton College, October 25, 2018. (Invited)

"Vitality and Values: *Lebensphilosophie* in Nietzsche and Scheler." Meeting of the Max Scheler Society of North America, in association with the North American Society for Early Phenomenology, Duquesne University, June 2018.

"Determination of Value: Nietzsche's Place in Metaphilosophical Speculation in Nineteenth Century Germany." University of South Florida Graduate Philosophy Conference, March 2016.

"Reverence for the Beyond: Nietzsche on Science." The New School Graduate Philosophy Conference, April 2014.

"Disinterestedness in Art and Knowledge in the Early Nietzsche." Notre Dame Philosophy and History Workshop, April 2013. (Invited)

"Discovering and Creating: Nietzsche on Understanding Action." The New School Graduate Philosophy Conference, April 2012.

"Kant vs. Kierkegaard in Robert Adams' Finite and Infinite Goods." Kentucky Philosophical Association annual meeting, Spring 2007.

"Refining the Passions: Plato and Nietzsche." Kentucky Philosophical Association annual meeting, Spring 2006.

COMMENTARY, ETC.

Participant in an author-meets-critics session on Douglas Yacek and Mark Jonas, *Nietzsche's Philosophy of Education*, North American Association of Philosophy of Education, October 2019.

Commentary on Rachel Cristy, "Nietzsche on the Good of Cultural Change." International Congress of the North American Nietzsche Society, October 2016.

TEACHING

As principal instructor and course designer:

Introduction to Philosophy (Fall 2012-2016, Spring 2021)

(11 total sections) Historical introduction, based on key texts by Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Hume. Taught 9x at University of Notre Dame and 2x at Westville Correctional Facility, as part of Holy Cross College's Westville Educational Initiative.

Ethical Theory (Fall 2020 – Spring 2021)

(4 total sections) Introduction to questions in normative ethical theory (and a little meta-ethics), through both historical and contemporary sources.

Business Ethics (Fall 2017-Spring 2020)

(14 total sections) Introduction to ethical, social, and political issues in contemporary business and economics.

The Brothers Karamazov (Spring 2021)

(1 section) A chapter-by-chapter read-through of Dostoevsky's classic, with focus on its philosophical and socio-political themes.

Existentialist Themes (Spring 2015)

(2 sections) Analysis of existentialist themes in works of philosophy (Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Sartre, de Beauvoir) and literature (Dostoevsky, Kafka, Cormac McCarthy, Camus).

Nietzsche (Spring 2014, 2016)

(4 sections) Introduction to the thought of Friedrich Nietzsche, by way of a chronological treatment of his major works (*Birth of Tragedy*, *Gay Science*, *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, *On the Genealogy of Morality*)

Independent Studies (Summer 2018, Spring 2019)

-Independent studies on the ethics of whistleblowing (Summer 2018) and on labor exploitation (Spring 2019)

As teaching assistant (duties included grading papers and exams, and conducting discussion sections and exam review sessions):

Morality and Modernity (principal instructor: David Solomon) – 4 sections

Introduction to Philosophy (principal instructor: Marian David) – 2 sections

Medical Ethics (principal instructor: David Solomon) – 4 sections

Ancient Wisdom/Modern Love (principal instructor: David O'Connor) – 4 sections

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Conference referee for 2019 meeting of the North American Association of Philosophy & Education, October 2019.

Reviewer for: *Ergo*.

Organizing committee member for "The Horizons of Business Leadership: A Conference on Non-Profit Leadership and Social Entrepreneurship," King's College, March 2019.

Conference referee and session chair for "Translating Realism: The Nature and Emergence of Contemporary French Thought," University of Notre Dame, April 2013.

Editorial Assistant for the *Internationales Jahrbuch des Deutschen Idealismus*, vol. 9 (under editor Fred Rush), Fall 2011-Spring 2012.

Graduate student representative to the Notre Dame philosophy department, Fall 2009-Spring 2010.

Conference referee for "Hegel and German Idealism," University of Notre Dame, March 2009.

AWARDS

Philosophy Department travel grants (Notre Dame), two awards.

Senior Achievement Award, for seniors in philosophy (University of Kentucky). 2007.

National Merit Scholarship, 2003-2007.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association

North American Nietzsche Society

North American Association for the Philosophy of Education

LANGUAGES

German

REFERENCES

Karl Ameriks

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Fred Rush

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University of Notre Dame
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Stephen Watson

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Matthew Meyer

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University of Scranton
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Bernard Prusak (teaching reference)

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