

BLAKE McALLISTER

Curriculum Vitae

–May 2022–

Department of Philosophy & Religion
Hillsdale College
33 E College Street
Hillsdale, MI 49242

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

HILLSDALE COLLEGE

2022–Present Associate Professor of Philosophy
2016–2022 Assistant Professor of Philosophy

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

2014–2016 Teacher of Record

LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY

2013–2016 Instructor

EDUCATION

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

2016 PhD in Philosophy
2013 MA in Philosophy

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

2011 BA in Philosophy, *summa cum laude*

SELECTED HONORS

- 2021 Project Collaborator on \$2.4 million grant (with Principal Investigator Ian Church) from John Templeton Foundation for the project “Launching Experimental Philosophy of Religion”
- 2019 Award attendee of the TheoPsych Residential Seminar at the Office of Science, Theology, and Religion Initiatives at Fuller Theological Seminary, funded by the John Templeton Foundation
- 2015–2016 Outstanding Dissertation Award Winner, Baylor University
- 2011–2016 Presidential Scholar, Baylor University
- 2015 Award attendee in the St. Thomas Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion at the University of St. Thomas, funded by the John Templeton Foundation.
- 2015 Winner of George Elder Davie Essay Prize for excellence in the study of Scottish Philosophy, Center for the Study of Scottish Philosophy

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- 2011 Salutatorian, Pepperdine University
- 2010 Presented with Award of Recognition from California's 38th District as co-founder and Vice-President of Project Exodus, a non-profit anti-trafficking organization.

SCHOLARSHIP

Research Interests: Epistemology; Philosophy of Religion; Philosophical Theology; Early Modern Philosophy

BOOKS

- Forthcoming *Seemings and the Foundations of Justification: A Defense of Phenomenal Conservatism.* Routledge.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- Forthcoming "Justification without Excuses: A Defense of Classical Deontology." *American Philosophical Quarterly*.
- 2022 "The Partiality of Faith." *Australasian Philosophical Review*, Special Issue on Faith.
- 2021 "From One Conservative to Another: A Critique of Epistemic Conservatism." *Southwest Philosophy Review*, 37(2).
- 2021 "Understanding Moral Disagreement: A Christian Perspectivalist Approach." *Religions* 12: 318.
- 2021 "Conceptualism and Concept Acquisition." *Theoria* 87(1), Special Issue on Concepts, Contexts, and Communication, 87: 69-86.
- 2020 "The Perspectival Problem of Evil." *Faith and Philosophy*, 37(4): 421-450.
- 2019 (with Trent Dougherty). "Reforming Reformed Epistemology: A New Take on the *Sensus Divinitatis*." *Religious Studies* 55(4): 537-557.
- 2018 "The Perspective of Faith: Its Nature and Epistemic Implications." *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, 92(3): 515-533.
- 2018 "Seemings as *Sui Generis*." *Synthese* 195(7): 3079-3096.
- 2016 "Re-evaluating Reid's Response to Skepticism." *Journal of Scottish Philosophy* 14(3): 317-339.
- 2016 "Divine Command Theory and Moral Supervenience." *Philosophia Christi* 18(1): 65-78.
- 2014 "Adequate and Inadequate Ideas in Spinoza." *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 31(2): 119-136.

BOOK CONTRIBUTIONS

- 2020 (with Logan Gage). "The Phenomenal Conservative Approach to Religious Epistemology." In J. DePoe and T. McNabb, eds., *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology: An Introduction to Five Views on the Knowledge of God*. New York: Bloomsbury.
- 2020 (with Logan Gage). "PC: Reply to Critics." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*.
- 2020 (with Logan Gage). "A Phenomenal Conservatist Response to Classical Evidentialism." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*.
- 2020 (with Logan Gage). "A Phenomenal Conservatist Response to Reformed Epistemology." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*.
- 2020 (with Logan Gage). "A Phenomenal Conservatist Response to Covenantal Epistemology." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*.
- 2020 (with Logan Gage). "A Phenomenal Conservatist Response to Traditions Based Perspectivalism." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*.
- 2019 "Evidence is Required for Religious Beliefs." In *Contemporary Debates in Philosophy of Religion*. Edited by Michael L. Peterson and Raymond J. VanArragon. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2019 "Reply to VanArragon." In *Contemporary Debates in Philosophy of Religion*.
- 2019 "Restoring Common Sense: Restorationism and Common Sense Epistemology." In *Restoration & Philosophy: New Philosophical Engagements with the Stone-Campbell Tradition*. Edited by J. Caleb Clanton. Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee Press.

DISSERTATION

- 2016 "Common Sense Epistemology: A Defense of Seemings as Evidence"

Committee: Jonathan Kvanvig (director), Trent Dougherty, Alexander Pruss, Todd Buras, Gerald Cleaver

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 "Seemings and Truth." 96th Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, University of St. Andrews.
- 2021 "Empirical Challenges to the Problem of Evil." Society of Christian Philosophers, Midwest Regional Meeting, Baylor University.
- 2021 "Epistemic Responsibility without Transparency or Voluntarism." American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting.
- 2019 "The Perspectival Problem of Evil." Evangelical Philosophical Society, Moody Bible School.

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- 2018 "Perspectives on the Problem of Evil: The Need for Theodicy." Christian Scholars Conference, Lipscomb University.
- 2018 Panel presentation on "Philosophy and the Church." Christian Scholars Conference, Lipscomb University.
- 2017 "Faith and the Justification of Christian Belief." Society of Christian Philosophers Eastern Regional Meeting, Asbury University.
- 2017 "Why Internalists Should Endorse Phenomenal Conservatism (and Externalists Should Pay Attention)." American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting.
- 2017 "Reforming Reformed Epistemology." American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting.
- 2017 "Restoring Common Sense: Common Sense Epistemology and the Restoration Tradition." Christian Scholars Conference, Lipscomb University.
- 2017 Panel presentation on "Philosophical Engagements with the Stone-Campbell Tradition." Christian Scholars Conference, Lipscomb University.
- 2016 "The Perspective of Faith." Society of Christian Philosophers Eastern Regional Meeting, Rutgers University.
- 2016 "Reforming Reformed Epistemology." Society of Christian Philosophers Pacific Regional Meeting, University of San Diego.
- 2015 "Conceptualism and Concept Acquisition." Mountain Plains Philosophical Society, University of Missouri-Kansas City.
- 2015 "Revamping Traditional Arguments for Internalism." Alabama Philosophical Society.
- 2015 "Carving at the Joints: Naturalism and the Problem of Natural Beliefs." Houston Baptist University Philosophy Conference, Houston Baptist University.
- 2015 "A New Evolutionary Argument Against Naturalism." Society of Christian Philosophers Midwest Regional Meeting, Spring Hill College.
- 2015 "Reid on the Justification of First Principles." Center for the Study of Scottish Philosophy Spring Conference, Princeton Theological Seminary.
- 2014 "Conceptualism and Concept Acquisition." Northern Graduate Philosophy Conference, Northern Illinois University.
- 2014 Comments on Michael Shaffer, "Pascal's Wager, Acceptance and Belief." The Nature and Value of Faith Conference, The Faith Project funded by the John Templeton Foundation.
- 2014 "Teaching with Ethos." Baptist Association of Philosophy Teachers, Baylor University.
- 2014 "Hard Facts Made Easy." American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting.
- 2014 "Hard Facts Made Easy." Society of Christian Philosophers Midwest Regional Meeting, Trinity Christian College.

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- 2013 "A Reductive Account of the *Sensus Divinitatis*." Houston Baptist University Philosophy Conference, Houston Baptist University.
- 2013 "A Reductive Account of the *Sensus Divinitatis*." Society of Christian Philosophers Mountain-West Regional Meeting, University of Colorado-Boulder.
- 2012 "Theistic Modal Realism and Gratuitous Evil." Alabama Philosophical Society.
- 2012 "Desire Fulfillment Theories and the Inequality of Desires." North Texas Philosophical Association, University of North Texas.
- 2012 "Escaping Murphy's Trilemma." Society of Christian Philosophers Midwest Regional Meeting, Hendrix College.
- 2012 Comments on Richard Cross, "What is Philosophically Interesting about Medieval Views of the Trinity." Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference, Baylor University.
- 2010 "The Principle of Sufficient Reason and Free Will." Intermountain West Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Utah.

POPULAR SCHOLARSHIP*Popular-Level Articles*

- 2021 (with Jordan Wales) "God creates through the natural process of the universe" *The Collegian*, Hillsdale College.
- 2018 "Seeing Through the Eyes of Faith." *The Open Table*, July 29, 2018, <https://www.theopentableblog.online>.
- 2011 "The Universe Began to Exist? Craig's Philosophical Arguments for a Finite Past." *Stance*, Vol. 4.
- 2010 "The Principle of Sufficient Reason and Free Will." *Stance*, Vol. 3.

Popular-Level Presentations

- 2021 "Understanding Moral Disagreement." Radio Free Hillsdale Hour.
- 2021 "Perspective and the Problem of Evil." Radio Free Hillsdale Hour.
- 2021 "A Primer in Modal Logic." Lecture for Formal Logic Club, Hillsdale College.
- 2021 Four-week reading group on C.S. Lewis's *The Great Divorce*.
- 2021 "Is There a Christian Right to Revolution?" Lecture for Alethia, Hillsdale College.
- 2021 "Alston on Perceiving God." Lecture for Phi Sigma Tau Philosophical Honorary, Hillsdale College.
- 2021 "The Basics of Bayesian Epistemology." Lecture for Formal Logic Club, Hillsdale College.
- 2021 "Israel—Prevailing Through Defeat." Holy Trinity Anglican Parish.

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- 2020 "What is Phenomenal Conservatism?" The Sound Doctrine Podcast, October 2020, <https://www.thesounddoctrinepodcast.com>.
- 2020 "Aristotelian Metaphysics and the Soul of Holy Trinity." Holy Trinity Anglican Parish.
- 2019 "The Psychology of Moral Judgments, Narrative, and the Problem of Suffering." Lecture for the Liberal Arts Friday Forum on Psychology and the Moral Imagination, sponsored by The Lyceum.
- 2019 "The Wisdom of Horror." Lecture for Interdisciplinary panel on Biological Weapons, sponsored by the Alexander Hamilton Society.
- 2019 "Are We Just Organic Computers?" Panel presentation for Center for Constructive Alternatives Conference on Artificial Intelligence.
- 2019 "Self-Deception." Lecture for Student Men's Group sponsored by Joshua Bailey, Dominic Whalen, and the Dean of Men's Office.
- 2019 "Tithing: Why We Are All Afraid to Think Too Hard About Money." Lecture for panel on tithing sponsored by the Catholic Student Association.
- 2019 "And Yet..." Easter Vigil Homily, Holy Trinity Anglican Parish.
- 2018 "Freedom in Dostoevsky's 'The Grand Inquisitor'." (with Dr. Justin Jackson) Lecture for Collegiate Scholars Program.
- 2018 "Philosophical Underpinnings of the Culture Wars: It's All About the Metaphysics." Lecture for Modern Identity Crisis Conference, World Youth Alliance.
- 2018 "David Lewis on Time Travel." Lecture for the Philosophy Club Reading Group.
- 2018 "A True Liberal Arts College." Lecture delivered at Admission Recruitment Reception in Plymouth, MI
- 2018 "The God Who Loves." Homily, Holy Trinity Anglican Parish.
- 2017 Panel on Faith and Authority, *This Far by Faith: Reformation at 500* Lecture Series.
- 2016 "Reforming Reformed Epistemology: A New Take on the *Sensus Divinitatis*." Lecture sponsored by the Department of Philosophy & Religion.
- 2015–2016 Fundamentals of Christian Theology Course, Church Under the Bridge, Waco, TX:
- "God and Knowledge of God"
 - "Humanity's Purpose, Fall, and Redemption"
 - "Justification and Sanctification"
 - "The Sanctified Life"
 - "The Church: The Life and Mission of a Disciple of Christ"
- 2015 "Sin as Rebellion." John Henry Newman Center, Baylor University.

*Blake McAllister / CV***RESEARCH SEMINARS**

- 2022 Epistemology Workshop on Seemings. St. Thomas University-New Brunswick, organized by Kevin McCain and Scott Stapleford.
- 2019 Participant in the TheoPsych Residential Seminar at the Center for Science, Technology, and Religion at Fuller Theological Seminary, funded by the John Templeton Foundation.
- 2015 Participant in the St. Thomas Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion at the University of St. Thomas, funded by the John Templeton Foundation.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2012–Present American Philosophical Association
- 2011–Present Society of Christian Philosophers
- 2022-Present Aristotelian Society

TEACHING & ADVISING

Teaching Competences: Survey or topical courses in Logic, Epistemology, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophical Theology, Analytic Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy, Ancient Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Science

COURSES TAUGHT**HILLSDALE COLLEGE**

PHL 105	Western Philosophical Tradition	Fall 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
		Spring 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
		Summer 2019, 2021
PHL 341	Twentieth Century Analytic Philosophy	Fall 2016, 2018, 2020
PHL 342	Epistemology	Spring 2017, 2019 Fall 2022
PHL 343	Metaphysics	Spring 2018, 2020, 2022
PHL 420	Philosophy of Religion	Fall 2017, 2019, 2021
PHL 493	Philosophy, Science, and Religion	Spring 2021
CSP 255	Wandering in Darkness: Narrative and the Problem of Suffering	Fall 2017
CSP 255	Heaven, Hell, and In Between	Fall 2020

*Blake McAllister / CV**Independent studies:*

Christianity & Evolution (with Spencer Rothfuss)	Spring 2021
Skepticism (with Long Nguyen)	Spring 2022

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PHI 105	Logic	Fall 2014, Spring 2015
PHI 1308	The Pursuit of Happiness	Fall 2015

LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY

PL 1003	Introduction to Philosophy	Fall 2013, 2014, 2015 Spring 2014, 2015
PL 3433	Ethical Theory	Summer 2014, 2015
PL 366V	Business & Professional Ethics	Fall 2013, 2014 Spring 2014, 2015 Summer 2014, 2015

ADVISING

Thesis Advising

2022	Second Reader, Daniel Ambuul, "Intellectual Certainty and Assenting to a Personal God in John Henry Newman's <i>Grammar of Ascent</i> ," Collegiate Scholars Program Thesis.
2021	First Reader, Amelia Rasmusen, "Inter Plenitudo et Nihil: A Contemporary Look at Petitionary Prayer through Augustinian Deification," Collegiate Scholars Program Thesis
2021	Second Reader, Patrick Mitchell, "Rea Culpa: A Critique of the Constitution Model of the Trinity," Philosophy Thesis
2021	Second Reader, Peter Hawersaat, "Glimpses of Truth: Knowledge and Humility in <i>Moby-Dick</i> "
2020	First Reader, Natalie Glitz, "The Black Mirror Guide to Hacking Society," Collegiate Scholars Program Thesis
2019	Second Reader, Rebecca Carlson, "Conflicting Intuitions? Applying Bayesian Epistemology and Experimental Philosophy to the Problem of Evil," Philosophy Thesis
2017	Second Reader, M. Evan Willis, "Automacy, Faith, and the Possibility of Knowledge," Philosophy Thesis

Student Organization Advising

2021-Present	Faculty Advisor, Phi Sigma Tau Philosophical Honorary
2018-Present	Faculty Advisor, Anglican Student Fellowship

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2018–Present Faculty Mentor, Alethia

2018–2019 Faculty Mentor, Student Men’s Groups, Dean of Men’s Office

2017 Faculty Advisor, Ratio Christi