

BLAKE MCALLISTER

Curriculum Vitae

–October 2022–

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

Office: (517) 607-2543
Email: bmcallister@hillsdale.edu
Website: www.blakemcallister.com

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

HILLSDALE COLLEGE

2022–Present Associate Professor of Philosophy
2016–Present 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 Collaborator on \$2.4 million grant (with Principle 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 of 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
- 2012 Best Graduate Student Paper, Midwest Region of the Society of Christian Philosophers
- 2011 Salutatorian, Pepperdine University
- 2010 Award of Recognition for Work Against Human-Trafficking, California’s 38th District

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 (with Ian Church, Paul Rezkalla, and Long Nguyen) "Empirical Challenges to the Evidential Problem of Evil." *Oxford Studies in Experimental Philosophy of Religion.*

Forthcoming "Justification without Excuses: A Defense of Classical Deontology." *American Philosophical Quarterly.*

2021 "The Partiality of Faith." *Australasian Philosophical Review*, Special Issue on Faith, 5(1): 36-45.

2021 "From One Conservative to Another: A Critique of Epistemic Conservatism." *Southwest Philosophical Review*, 37(2): 167-186.

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

- Forthcoming "Seemings and Truth." In K. McCain and S. Stapleford, eds., *Seemings: New Angles, New Arguments*. Routledge.
- 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). "Classical Evidentialism: A Phenomenal Conservative Critique." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*
- 2020 (with Logan Gage). "Reformed Epistemology: A Phenomenal Conservative Critique." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*
- 2020 (with Logan Gage). "MacIntyrean Traditions Based Perspectivalism: A Phenomenal Conservative Critique." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*
- 2020 (with Logan Gage). "Covenantal Epistemology: A Phenomenal Conservative Critique." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*
- 2020 (with Logan Gage). "Reply to Critics." 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 "A Return to 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.

- 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.
- 2017 Panel on Faith and Authority, This Far by Faith: Reformation at 500 Lecture Series.
- 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.
- 2016 "Reforming Reformed Epistemology." Lecture sponsored by the Department of Philosophy & Religion.
- 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.
- 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.com>
- 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 "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.
- 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 "And Yet..." Easter Vigil Homily, Holy Trinity Anglican Parish.
- 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.
- 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 Hillsdale College Admissions Reception in Plymouth, MI
- 2018 "The God Who Loves." Homily, Holy Trinity Anglican Parish.
- 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.
- 2014–2015 Lectures for Church Under the Bridge, Waco, TX:
 "Justification"
 "Sanctification"
 "Forgiveness"
 "Paradoxes of the Faith"
 "Passover and the Crucifixion"
- 2011 "Hume's Argument Against Miracles." Pepperdine University
- 2010 "Anselm's Ontological Argument." Pepperdine University

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

COURSES TAUGHT

HILLSDALE COLLEGE

- PHL 105 The Western Philosophical Tradition
- PHL 213 Modern Philosophy
- PHL 341 Twentieth Century Analytic Philosophy
- PHL 342 Epistemology
- PHL 343 Metaphysics
- PHL 420 Philosophy of Religion
- CSP 255 Wandering in Darkness: Narrative and the Problem of Suffering
- CSP 260 Heaven, Hell, and In Between
- PHL 495 Philosophy, Science, and Religion

Independent studies:

- PHL 597 Christianity & Evolution
- PHL 597 Skepticism

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

- PHI 105 Logic
- PHI 1308 The Pursuit of Happiness

LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY

- PL 1003 Introduction to Philosophy
- PL 3433 Ethical Theory
- PL 366V Business & Professional Ethics