

# BLAKE MCALLISTER

## *Curriculum Vitae*

–January 2020–

Department of Philosophy & Religion  
Hillsdale College  
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Hillsdale, MI 49242

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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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#### HILLSDALE COLLEGE

2016–Present Assistant Professor of Philosophy

#### BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

2014–2016 Teacher of Record

#### LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY

2013–2016 Instructor

### EDUCATION

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#### BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

2016 PhD in Philosophy  
2013 MA in Philosophy

#### PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

2011 BA in Philosophy, *summa cum laude*

### SELECTED HONORS

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- 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 38<sup>th</sup> District

## SCHOLARSHIP

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

### DISSERTATION

- 2016 "Common Sense Epistemology: A Defense of Seemings as Evidence"  
Committee: Jonathan Kvanvig (director), Trent Dougherty, Alexander Pruss, Todd Buras, Gerald Cleaver

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- Forthcoming. "The Partiality of Faith." *Australasian Philosophical Review*, Special Issue on Faith.
- 2019 "Conceptualism and Concept Acquisition." *Theoria*, Special Issue on Concepts.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/theo.12209>
- 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. (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.
- Forthcoming. (with Logan Gage). "Classical Evidentialism: A Phenomenal Conservative Critique." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*
- Forthcoming. (with Logan Gage). "Reformed Epistemology: A Phenomenal Conservative Critique." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*
- Forthcoming. (with Logan Gage). "MacIntyrean Traditions Based Perspectivalism: A Phenomenal Conservative Critique." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*
- Forthcoming. (with Logan Gage). "Covenantal Epistemology: A Phenomenal Conservative Critique." In *Debating Christian Religious Epistemology*
- Forthcoming. (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*. Edited by J. Caleb Clanton. Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee Press.

#### SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

- 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.

#### RESEARCH SEMINARS

- 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 SERVICE

##### *Conferences Organized*

- 2013 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference, Baylor University (with Jonathan Kvanvig)
- 2012 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference, Baylor University (with Jonathan Kvanvig)

*Ad Hoc Referee*

Mind  
 Cambridge University Press  
 American Philosophical Quarterly  
 Faith & Philosophy  
 Journal of Analytic Theology  
 Res Philosophica  
 Australasian Journal of Philosophy  
 Dialectica  
 Theoria

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

2012–Present American Philosophical Association

2011–Present Society of Christian Philosophers

**POPULAR SCHOLARSHIP***Popular-Level Articles*

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*

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 The Way Discipleship Group, 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

## TEACHING

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*Teaching Competences:* 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 Spring 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 Summer 2019
PHL 341	Twentieth Century Analytic Philosophy	Fall 2016, 2018
PHL 342	Issues in Contemporary Epistemology	Spring 2017, 2019
PHL 343	Issues in Contemporary Metaphysics	Spring 2018, 2020
PHL 420	Philosophy of Religion	Fall 2017, 2019
CSP 255	Wandering in Darkness: Narrative and the Problem of Suffering	Fall 2017

New courses in preparation:

PHL 105	Philosophy, Science, and Religion	Fall 2020
CSP 255	Heaven, Hell, and In Between	Fall 2020

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

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