

Ryan West

Department of Philosophy, Grove City College
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EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor of Philosophy, Grove City College (2022–present)
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Grove City College (2016–2022)
Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Philosophy, The Beacon Project, Wake Forest University (2015–2016)
Teacher of Record, Baylor University (2014–2015)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy, Baylor University, 2016
Dissertation: *Cultivating Character: Spiritual Exercises, Remedial Virtues, and the Formation of the Heart*
Committee: Robert C. Roberts (chair), C. Stephen Evans, Christian Miller, Bob Kruschwitz, Michael Beaty
M.A. Philosophy, Baylor University, 2015
M.A. Philosophy of Religion and Ethics (highest honors), Talbot School of Theology (Biola University), 2004
B.A. Biblical and Theological Studies, Music Minor (summa cum laude), Biola University, 2003

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Ethics, Philosophical Psychology (moral and intellectual character, emotions), Philosophy of Religion

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

History of Philosophy (especially Ancient and Medieval), Applied Ethics, Epistemology, Symbolic Logic

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

“Introduction to Ethics,” GCC, Fall 2022 (x2), F21, F20 (x2), Spring 2020 (x2), S19 (x2), S18 (x2), S17 (x2), F16
“Symbolic Logic,” GCC, Fall 2022, F21, Spring 2021, F19, F18, F17, S17, F16 (x2)
“Ancient Philosophy,” GCC, Fall 2022, Fall 2020, Fall 2018, Spring 2017
“Studies in Philosophy: Kierkegaard,” GCC, Spring 2022, Spring 2020
“Epistemology,” GCC, Spring 2022, Spring 2020, Spring 2018
“Christianity & Civilization,” GCC, Spring 2022, S21 (x2), January 2020, Fall 2019 (x2), J19 (travel), S18, F17 (x2)
“Ethics (advanced),” GCC, Fall 2021, Fall 2019
“Medieval Philosophy,” GCC, Spring 2021, Spring 2019, Fall 2017
“Philosophy Seminar: Upbuilding Philosophy,” GCC, Fall 2020
“Philosophy Seminar: Emotions and Virtues,” Grove City College, Spring 2019
“Contemporary Problems: Attention to Virtues,” GCC, Fall 2016
“Introduction to Ethics: Living the Good Life,” Baylor University, Spring 2015, Fall 2014
“Introduction to Philosophy,” North Whidbey Christian High School, Fall 2009–Spring 2010
“Introduction to C. S. Lewis,” Arapahoe Community College, Spring 2007

“Baylor Honors College Colloquium: C. S. Lewis’s *The Great Divorce*,” Spring 2015, Spring 2014
“Baylor Honors College Colloquium: C. S. Lewis’s *The Four Loves*,” Fall 2013
“Baylor Honors College Colloquium: C. S. Lewis’s *The Abolition of Man*,” Spring 2013
Teaching Assistant, “Medical Ethics,” Professor David Solomon, Baylor University, Spring 2014
Teaching Assistant, “Classical Philosophy,” Professor C. Stephen Evans, Baylor University, Spring 2012
Teaching Assistant, “Introduction to Ethics: Community, Friendship, and the Virtues,” Professor Michael Beaty, Baylor University, Fall 2011

EDITED VOLUME

Integrity, Honesty, and Truth Seeking (co-edited with Christian B. Miller), Oxford University Press (2020).

PUBLISHED ESSAYS

15. “Virtues of Willpower and Self-Possession” (with Robert C. Roberts), in *Endurance*, ed. Nathan L. King (Oxford University Press, forthcoming).
14. “Willpower and the Cultivation of Virtues,” in *Faith and Virtue Formation: Christian Philosophy in Aid of Becoming Good*, ed. Adam C. Pelsler and W. Scott Cleveland (Oxford University Press, 2021), 80–102.
13. “The Virtue of Honesty: A Conceptual Exploration” (with Robert C. Roberts), in *Integrity, Honesty, and Truth Seeking*, ed. Christian B. Miller and Ryan West (Oxford University Press, 2020), 97–126.
12. “Introduction” (with Christian B. Miller), in *Integrity, Honesty, and Truth Seeking*, ed. Christian B. Miller and Ryan West (Oxford University Press, 2020), xv–xl.
11. “*Cultivating Virtue*: A Review Essay,” *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 16 (2019): 359–370.
10. “Respect as an Intellectual Virtue” (with Adam C. Pelsler), in *Virtue and Voice: Habits of Mind for a Return to Civil Discourse*, ed. Gregg Ten Elshof and Evan Rosa (Abilene Christian University Press, 2019), 69–92.
9. “Ministry and Psychotherapy” (with Robert C. Roberts), in *The Study of Ministry: A Comprehensive Survey of Theory and Best Practice*, ed. Martyn Percy, Ian S. Markham, Emma Percy, and Francesca Po (SPCK, 2019).
8. “Virtue Ethics is Empirically Adequate: A Defense of the CAPS Response to Situationism,” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 99:S1 (2018): 79–111.
7. “Jesus and the Virtues of Pride” (with Robert C. Roberts), in *The Moral Psychology of Pride*, ed. J. Adam Carter and Emma C. Gordon (Rowman & Littlefield, 2017), 99–122.
6. “Anger and the Virtues: A Critical Study in Virtue Individuation,” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 46:6 (2016): 877–97.
5. “Natural Epistemic Defects and Corrective Virtues” (with Robert C. Roberts), *Synthese* 192:8 (2015): 2557–76.
4. “Contempt and the Cultivation of Character: Two Models,” *Journal of Religious Ethics* 43:3 (2015): 493–519.
3. “Perceiving God through Natural Beauty” (with Adam C. Pelsler), *Faith and Philosophy* 32:3 (2015): 293–312.
2. “Getting Rid of Inappropriate Anger,” in *Anger, Christian Reflection: A Series in Faith and Ethics*, 53 (Waco, TX: The Institute for Faith and Learning at Baylor University, 2014): 21–9.
1. “Faith as a Passion and Virtue,” *Res Philosophica* 90:4 (2013): 565–87.

BOOK REVIEW

1. Review of Kevin Timpe and Craig A. Boyd (eds.), *Virtues and Their Vices* (OUP, 2014), in *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 14:2 (2017): 229–232.

OTHER WORKS IN PROGRESS

3. “Educating for Whole-Souled Christian Wisdom”
2. “Read Aloud!—For Edification: Teaching Philosophy in a Kierkegaardian Spirit”
1. “Fastidiousness and Prenatal Testing: Kierkegaardian Reflections on Parental Love”

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, INVITED TALKS (*), ETC.

27. * “Fastidiousness and Prenatal Testing: Kierkegaardian Reflections on Parental Love,” Bioethics Conference, Grove City College, September 2021
26. * “The Beginning(s) of Wisdom,” Chapel Address, Grove City College, September 2021
25. * “Willpower and the Cultivation of Virtues,” Franciscan University of Steubenville, December 2019
24. * “Respect as an Intellectual Virtue,” Faculty Discussion Forum, “Beyond Integration: Conversations on Faith, Teaching, and Scholarship,” Grove City College, October 2019
23. “Practicing *Studiositas* with the Medieval Philosophers,” “The Character of the University,” Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture, Baylor University, October 2019
22. * “Respect as an Intellectual Virtue,” Catholic University of the West, Angers, France, January 2019
21. * Sloth and Perseverance,” Faculty Retreat, Grove City College, August 2018
20. “Jesus and the Virtues of Pride” (co-written with Robert C. Roberts), Beacon Project Final Research Colloquium, Wake Forest University, June 2018
19. * “Remedial Virtues and the Task of Becoming Good,” Society of Christian Philosophers satellite session at the Annual Meeting of the American Catholic Philosophical Association, Dallas, TX, November 2017
18. * “Honesty: A Conceptual Exploration” (with Robert C. Roberts), “Integrity, Honesty, and Truth Seeking: A Conference,” Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing, University of Oklahoma, September 2017
17. * “Learning to Wait: Hope, Peace, and the Rhythms of Advent,” Lux Mea Meeting, Grove City College, December 2016
16. “Willpower and the Cultivation of Virtue,” Jubilee Centre Annual Conference, “Cultivating Virtues: Interdisciplinary Approaches,” Oriel College, Oxford University, January 2016
15. “Cultivating Intellectual Humility (and Pride) in the Classroom,” Kuyers Institute for Christian Teaching and Learning Conference, “Faith and Teaching: Virtue, Practice, Imagination,” Calvin College, October 2015
14. “Respect as an Intellectual Virtue” (with Adam C. Pelser), Fourth Annual Center for Christian Thought Conference, “Intellectual Virtue and Civil Discourse,” Biola University, May 2015
13. “A Defense of the CAPS Response to the Situationist Challenge,” American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver, B. C., April 2015
12. “Plundering Seneca: Stoic Spiritual Practices and Christianity,” Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, “Practical Religion,” Spring Hill College, March 2015

11. "On Emotional Doubt," American Catholic Philosophical Association Annual Meeting (satellite), Washington D. C., October 2014; Fourth Annual HBU Philosophy Conference, "Religion, Science, and the Intellectual Virtues," Houston Baptist University, April 2014
10. "Perceiving God through Natural Beauty" (with Adam C. Pelsler), Baptist Association of Philosophy Teachers Biennial Meeting, Baylor University, October 2014
9. "Getting Rid of Inappropriate Anger," Third Annual Center for Christian Thought Conference, "Psychology and Spiritual Formation," Biola University, May 2014
8. "A Critique of Pure Reasons-Based Virtue Individuation," American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Diego, CA, April 2014; Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, Georgetown College, April 2013
7. "Natural Epistemic Defects and Corrective Virtues" (with Robert C. Roberts), Kuyers Institute for Christian Teaching and Learning Conference, "Virtues, Vices, and Teaching," Calvin College, October 2013
6. "Material Constitution and the Incarnation: A Tension in Baker's Account," Southwest Regional Meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, Dallas Theological Seminary, March 2013
5. "Body-Soul Interaction and the Theism-Naturalism Divide," National Meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, Milwaukee, WI, November 2012
4. "Is Plato's Socrates a Proto-Jamesian?: The Will to Believe in the *Phaedo*," Annual Meeting of the Society of Ancient Greek Philosophy, Fordham University, October 2012
3. "Can God Have Emotions?" Baptist Association of Philosophy Teachers Summer Seminar, "Emotion's Roles in the Moral Life," Notre Dame University, May 2012
2. "Emotion, Moral Knowledge, and Moral Motivation," Midwest Regional Meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, March 2012; First Place Award, 3rd Annual Evangelical Philosophical Society Midwest Region Student Paper Contest
1. "Hypocrisy and Moral Realism," Southwest Regional Meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, March 2012

SEMINARS, HONORS, AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS

- Participant, Summer Seminar, "The Virtue of Accountability," Calvin University, 2021
- Participant, Summer Seminar, "Forgiving Those Who Hurt Us," Calvin College, 2016
- Participant, Summer Seminar, "Fundamental Practices for Intellectual Humility," 2015 (travel funding, stipend)
- Participant, The Character Project Summer Seminar, "Character: New Perspectives and Empirical Discoveries," 2013 (1 of 12 participants, selected from 210 applicants; travel funding, stipend)
- American Philosophical Association Graduate Student Travel Stipend (2)
- Conyers Scholar, Baylor University, 2013–4
- First Place Award, 3rd Annual Evangelical Philosophical Society Midwest Region Student Paper Contest, 2012
- Presidential Scholarship, Baylor University, 2011–present
- Kappa Tau Epsilon Honor Society, Talbot School of Theology, 2004
- Epsilon Kappa Epsilon Honor Society, Biola University, 2003
- National Dean's List, Biola University, 2003
- Dean's List, Biola University, 1999–2003
- Presidential Academic Scholarship, Biola University, 1999–2003

SERVICE

Advisory Board, The Honesty Project (2021–23)
Core Curriculum Review Committee, Grove City College (2020–present)
Student Faculty Review Committee for Academic Integrity, Grove City College (2020–present)
Discussion Group Leader, Lux Mea's Intercollegiate Colloquium on the Liberal Arts, Grove City College (2019)
Journal Referee, *Journal of Value Inquiry* (2015), *Social Theory and Practice* (2015), *Journal of Moral Philosophy* (2016), *Erkenntnis* (2020)
Session Chair, Evangelical Philosophical Society National Meeting (2015), Theistic Ethics Workshop at Wake Forest University (2015)

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Philosophical Psychology and Ethics

Seminar: Intellectual Virtues (Robert C. Roberts)
Seminar: Emotions and Virtues (Robert C. Roberts)
Directed Study: Anger, Gratitude, and Forgiveness (Robert C. Roberts)
Seminar: Philosophical Anthropology and the Philosophy of Mind/Soul (J. P. Moreland)
Seminar: Philosophy of Mind (C. Stephen Evans)
Seminar: Foundations of Moral Obligation (C. Stephen Evans)
Seminar: History of Twentieth Century Ethics (David Solomon)
Seminar: Ethical Issues I (Scott Rae)
History and Normative Systems of Ethics (Rick Langer)
Audit: Contemporary Ethics (Robert C. Roberts)
Audit: Moral Philosophy (Robert Kruschwitz)
Audit: Christian Ethics and Modern Culture (Douglas Groothuis)

Philosophy of Religion and Theology

Seminar: Molinism (Jonathan Kvanvig)
Philosophical Writing (course philosophical content is Philosophy of Religion) (Jonathan Kvanvig)
Seminar: Philosophy of Religion (R. Douglas Geivett)
Seminar: Philosophical Theology: Divine Omniscience (William Lane Craig)
Philosophy and Theology of Science (Garrett DeWeese)
Survey of Christian Doctrine I (W. David Buschart)
Survey of Christian Doctrine II (Craig A. Smith)
Historical Theology (Alan Gomes)
Directed Study: Advanced Theology
Directed Study: Philosophy and Theology of C. S. Lewis (Jerry Root)
Audit: Religious Pluralism (Douglas Groothuis)

History of Philosophy

Seminar: Søren Kierkegaard (C. Stephen Evans)
Seminar: Plato (Anne Marie Schultz)
Seminar: Thomas Aquinas's *Summa Contra Gentiles*, Book 1 (Thomas Hibbs)

Comprehensive Exam: Ancient Philosophy
Comprehensive Exam: Medieval Philosophy
Comprehensive Exam: Modern Philosophy
Comprehensive Exam: Contemporary Philosophy

Epistemology

Seminar: Intellectual Virtues (Robert C. Roberts; also listed under “Ethics and Philosophical Psychology”)
Seminar: Fallibilism (Trent Dougherty)
Epistemology I (Garrett DeWeese)
Audit: Epistemology (Jonathan Kvanvig)

Other Philosophy Coursework

Seminar: Teaching Philosophy (Robert Kruschwitz)
Metaphysics I (Garrett DeWeese)
Directed Study: Philosophy of Art (David Lyle Jeffrey)
Logic for Philosophers (Alexander Pruss)
Symbolic Logic (Rob Koons)

FAMILY

I am married (to Karla West), with three children (Ella, 15; Greyson, 12; Maxwell, 10)

REFERENCES

Dr. Robert C. Roberts
Distinguished Professor of Ethics, Emeritus
Baylor University
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Dr. C. Stephen Evans
University Professor of Philosophy and Humanities
Baylor University
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Dr. Christian B. Miller
A. C. Reid Professor of Philosophy
Wake Forest University
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Dr. Michael Beaty
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