

Curriculum Vitae

William G. Britt, Ph.D.

Senior Lecturer in Philosophy

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Current Position

Senior Lecturer, Philosophy
Discipline Leader, Humanities and Social Sciences
Director of the Centre for Academic Success

Catholic Theological Institute,
Papua New Guinea,
Jan 2021 – Dec 2023

Education

Ph.D. (Philosophy), Boston College May 2014
Dissertation: “Seduction is Not Yet Betrayal: Trust and the Essence of Truth for Heidegger and Freud” (abstract included below)

M.A. (Philosophy), Boston College May 2008

B.A. (Philosophy, with distinction), Yale University May 2006
Senior Thesis: “Much Ado: A Heideggerian Critique of J.-P. Sartre” (comparative study of *Being and Time* with *Being and Nothingness*, focused on accounts of facticity)

Academic Work

Jan 2021 – Dec 2023 Catholic Theological Institute Bomana, Papua New Guinea
Senior Lecturer: 3/3/3 base teaching load, plus additions
2021, Term 1: Introduction to Philosophy; Pragmatism and Analytic Philosophy;
Wittgenstein’s *Logical Investigations*; Supplementary English
Term 2: Ethics; Cosmology (2 sections); Methodology (Writing); Philosophy Research Paper
Term 3: Modern Philosophy; Philosophy of Science; Academic English; Phil Res Paper
Discipline Leader: Equivalent of department head
Centre Director:
(1) Support students in learning to research,
(2) teach a course each term in research methods or in academic English,
(3) carry out diagnostic English testing (entry/exit from Philosophy programme), and
(4) supervise 2-3 other faculty members who guide student writing

December 2019 Austen Riggs Center Stockbridge, MA
Scholar-in-Residence: Two-week seminar for psychiatry and psychology fellows
“Trust, Betrayal, and the Pursuit of Truth: Contributions to Psychopathology”

Fall 2015 – Spring 2018 Loyola Marymount University Los Angeles, CA
Postdoctoral Fellow: 3/3 teaching load (12 units/semester; mostly philosophy core course sequence)
Spring 2018: Philosophical Inquiry (3 sections)
Fall 2017: The Good Life (3 sections)
Spring 2017: Philosophical Inquiry (3 sections)
Fall 2016: Philosophy and Psychoanalysis (Graduate course); Ethics (2 sections)

Spring 2016: Philosophical Inquiry (3 sections)
 Fall 2015: Philosophical Inquiry (2 sections); Ethics (1 section)

Fall 2013 – Spring 2015 Loyola Marymount University Los Angeles, CA
Lecturer: Ethics (1-2 sections/semester)

Fall 2007 – Spring 2012 Boston College Chestnut Hill, MA
Graduate Teaching Fellow: sole instructor of record for year-long introductory course (never a TA)
 2011-2012: Philosophy of the Person (2 sections/semester)
 2010-2011: Philosophy of the Person (1 section/semester)
 2009-2010: Philosophy of the Person (1 section/semester)
 2008-2009: Philosophy of the Person (1 section/semester)
 2007-2008: Philosophy of the Person (1 section/semester)

Professional Development (Research)

Erikson Scholar-in-Residence, Erikson Institute, Austen Riggs Center (MA) Sept – Dec 2019
 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute (Gonzaga University) June – July 2014
 Topic: “Medieval Political Philosophy: Islamic, Jewish, and Christian”
 Collegium Phaenomenologicum (Città di Castello, Italy) July 2013
 Topic: “Heidegger: *Gelassenheit*, Ethical Life, *Ereignis*, 1933-1946”
 Phenomenology Research Center, Southern Illinois University (Carbondale, IL) August 2010
 International Symposium in Phenomenology (Perugia, Italy) July 2009
 Topic: “Phenomenology, Literature, Art”
 Goethe Institut, Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany (4-week language course) June 2009

Awards and Fellowships

Erikson Scholar, Erikson Institute for Education and Research, Austen Riggs Center Fall 2019
 Bellarmine Postdoctoral Fellowship, Loyola Marymount University Fall 2015 – Spring 2018
 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute Fellowship Summer 2014
 Dissertation Fellowship, Boston College Philosophy Department Academic Year 2012-13
 Fortin Summer Research Grant Summer 2012
 Graduate Teaching Fellowship, Boston College Fall 2007 – Spring 2012
 Fortin-Bradley Summer Award (Research Grant) Summer 2009
 Distinction in the Major (Philosophy), Yale University May 2006
 Mike Dodge Prize for Distinguished Paper in Philosophy, Yale University May 2003

Refereed Publications

Published

“On Sameness and Difference in the Piety of Thought,” *Sophia* 59 (2020): 285-309; DOI: 10.1007/s11841-018-0663-8).

“Philosophical Piety in Response to Euthyphro’s Hubris,” *Ancient Philosophy* 38.2 (Fall 2018): 265-87.

“Henry Jackson Watt,” in *The Sources of Husserl’s Ideas I*, eds. A. Staiti and E. Clarke (De Gruyter, 2018), 35-38.

Translation of Henry Watt, "Sammelbericht über die neuere Forschung in der Gedächtnis- und Assoziationspsychologie aus dem Jahre 1905," in *The Sources of Husserl's Ideas I*, eds. A. Staiti and E. Clarke (De Gruyter, 2018), 39-78.

"Why Friendship Justifies Becoming," *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 90, 2016. DOI: 10.5840/acpapro2017111667.

With Lode Lauwaert: "Gilles Deleuze on Sacher-Masoch and Sade: A Bergsonian Criticism of Freudian Psychoanalysis," *Deleuze Studies* 9.2 (May 2015): 153-184.

In Preparation (with declared interest from publishers)

Book MS: "A Disposition for the Truth: Trust as Basic Receptivity, With and Against Heidegger"

Book MS: "When the World Is Too Much With Us: Freud and Psychosis"

Invited Publications

Published

Review: "Heidegger's Concept of Philosophical Method: Innovating Philosophy in the Age of Global Warming," *Environmental Philosophy* 18.1 (Spring 2021): 155-159. DOI: 10.5840/envirophil20211815.

"A Review of John Haugeland's *Dasein Disclosed*," *Continental Philosophy Review* 47 (2014): 465-472.

"On Scientific Knowledge of Individuals in Aristotle," in *Sources of Desire: Essays on Aristotle's Theoretical Works*, ed. James Oldfield (Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Cambridge Scholars, 2012), 130-148.

Dissertation

Seduction is Not Yet Betrayal: Trust and the Essence of Truth for Heidegger and Freud

Director: Jeffrey Bloechl; **Readers:** Vanessa Rumble, Anthony Steinbock, Richard Capobianco

Abstract: I use Heidegger's phenomenological investigation of the essence of truth and Freud's psychoanalytic investigation of the break with the world that is psychosis to understand what kind of trust primarily integrates us into a coherent world. Against Heidegger, I interpret psychosis as the radical betrayal of this trust, then claim that this indicates that our fundamental relation to being is more like trusting a person than like trusting a structure (e.g., *alētheia*).

Presentations

Refereed Conference Presentations

"The Body of Internal Conflict"

Pacific Association for the Continental Tradition (San Francisco)

September 2017

"Why Friendship Justifies Becoming"

American Catholic Philosophical Association (San Francisco)

November 2016

"Whence Catholic Philosophy?"

- October 2015
- American Catholic Philosophical Assoc. Satellite Session (Boston College)
- “The Time that Consumes and the Time that Eats”
Pacific Association for the Continental Tradition (Seattle University) September 2015
- “Illness as Privation, Healing as Meditation”
Heidegger Circle Annual Meeting (Loyola University, Maryland) May 2015
- “Mitya’s Amulet vs. Foucault’s Preferential Option for the Suicidal”
Pacific Association for the Continental Tradition (Loyola Marymount Univ.) October 2014
- “Heidegger and Freud on the Ground of Logical Negation”
Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle (Santa Barbara, CA) March 2014
- “On Being and Having a Conversation: Heidegger’s Dialogues”
Participants’ Conference, Collegium Phaenomenologicum (Citta di Castello, Italy) July 2013
- “Originary Truth as Heidegger’s Self-Assurance”
New York Phenomenology Research Group (The New School) March 2013
- “Tales of the Drives in Freud and Aristotle”
Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle (Univ. of San Diego) March 2012
- “Why Friendship Justifies Becoming”
Ancient Philosophy Society (Utah Valley University) April 2011
- “How Does Contemplation Really Work?”
Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy (Fordham University) October 2010
- “Aristotle on Universals”
Graduate Philosophy Conference, Gonzaga University April 2010
- Invited Presentations
- “The Virtues of Academic Honesty”
Methodology Presentation, Catholic Theological Institute (Papua New Guinea) March 2021
- “Varieties of Trust and Betrayal” and “Mood: At the Wild Heart of Truth”
Gould Farm (Monterey, MA) November 2020
- “Heidegger and Aristotle, Madness and Essence”
Society for Continental Philosophy and Theology (satellite session, ACPA) November 2019
- “On Basic Trust and Its Betrayal in Psychosis”
Grand Rounds, Austen Riggs Center (Stockbridge, MA) September 2019
- “Heidegger’s Critique of Novelty”
Society for Continental Philosophy and Theology (satellite session, ACPA) November 2017

- “An Attempt at Synthesizing Psychotic Phenomena”
 Clinical/Professional Issues Forum, Psychology Department
 Patton State Mental Hospital (San Bernardino, CA) June 2017
- “‘I Wake and Feel the Fell of Dark, Not Day’: On Language and Betrayal in Psychotic Suffering”
 Public Lecture, Philosophy Department, Cal State University, Stanislaus February 2017
- Text Seminar on Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion and Embrace*, Ch. 7
 Society for Continental Philosophy and Theology (satellite session, ACPA) November 2016
- “Trust; Or, On Being Claimed”
 Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Minnesota, Duluth April 2016
- “Trust and the Piety of Thought”
 Public lecture, Department of Philosophy, University of Dallas April 2015
- “Heidegger’s ‘Language’ essay: Why so much about things, so little about words?”
 Guest lecture, graduate course on Heidegger, Loyola Marymount University October 2014
- “How Can Psychotic Responses Be Understood? The Role of Trust and Betrayal in Psychosis”
 Clinical/Professional Issues Forum, Psychology Department
 Patton State Mental Hospital (San Bernardino, CA) October 2014
 Grand Rounds, Department of Psychiatry, Loma Linda University June 2014
- “The Nature of Truth as Self-Made Security in Heidegger’s Work”
 Faculty Colloquium Presentation, Loyola Marymount University October 2013
- “Response to Richard Boothby’s ‘The Lost Cause of Mourning’”
 “After the Unthinkable” Conference (on trauma), Boston College March 2012
- “How Freud Found Sexuality in Aristotle”
 Graduate Philosophy Forum, Boston College December 2011
- “Response to K. Ziarek’s ‘*Das gewalt-lose Walten*: Heidegger on Violence, Power, and Gentleness”
 The Heidegger Circle, Annual Meeting (Marquette University) May 2011
- “On Trust in Philosophy and Psychoanalysis” (with J. Bloechl)
 Keynote, “Philosophical Collaborations” (South. Illinois Univ. Carbondale) March 2011
- “Ride the Lightning: Contrasting the Work of Poetry for Gadamer and Heidegger”
 Graduate Philosophy Forum, Boston College Fall 2007

Professional Development (Teaching)

- Ignatian Pedagogy Seminar for Postdoctoral Fellows (once/mo. during academic years 2015-2018)
 Workshop Participation at the Center for Teaching Excellence, Loyola Marymount University:
 Enhancing Reflection Through Peer Feedback
 How Should We Evaluate Teaching?

Facilitators and Barriers to Interdisciplinary Scholarly Collaboration
 Advances in Research on Learning and Teaching
 Autism Spectrum in the College Classroom: Strategies for Instructors
 Structuring and Sequencing Writing Assignments
 Teaching for Intellectual Virtues: Eight Strategies
 Asking the Right Questions: Best Practices for Designing Exams
 Teaching after the Second Great Digital Storm

Academic Service

Referee for *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*
 Referee for Leuven University Press
 Referee for *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*
 Referee for *Ancient Philosophy*
 Referee for Palgrave Macmillan (Philosophy and Religion)
 Co-organizer, Society for Continental Phil. and Theol. satellite session at ACPA 2016 – 2019
 Led reading group for MA students: nothingness and negation in Heidegger, LMU Spring 2015
 Session Chair, Pacific Association for the Continental Tradition Fall 2014
 Led reading group for MA students: Freud’s *Introductory Lectures*, LMU Spring 2013
 Session Chair, Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy (Annual Meeting) 2010
 Session Chair, International Society for Phenomenology and Psychoanalysis (Annual Mtg) 2009

University Service

Department Head, Humanities and Social Sciences 2021 – 2023
 Director of the Centre for Academic Success 2021
 Library Committee 2021
 Faculty Advisor, Ultimate Frisbee Club Fall 2015 – Spring 2018
 Small Group Leader, Campus Ministry Fall 2014 – Spring 2016

Languages

German: Advanced (reading/speaking/writing)
Ancient Greek: Advanced (reading)
Latin: Intermediate (reading)
Spanish: High Intermediate (reading/speaking/writing)
French: Elementary (reading)
Chinese: Beginner (reading/speaking/writing)

Membership in Professional Societies

American Philosophical Association
 American Catholic Philosophical Association
 The Heidegger Circle
 Ancient Philosophy Society

Scholarship References

Jeffrey Bloechl
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Teaching References

Dan Speak (Undergraduate)
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Brad Stone (Graduate)
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