

Curriculum Vitae

Eric Sotnak

Department of Philosophy
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Education:

June 1994 Ph.D., University of Rochester
May 1991 M.A., University of Rochester
May 1987 M.A., University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
May 1984 B.A., Gustavus Adolphus College

Dissertation:

Title: Contingency and Freedom in Leibniz' Metaphysics
Advisor: Professor Ralf Meerbote

M.A. Thesis (University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee):

Title: William James on Truth and Religious Belief
Advisor: Professor William J. Wainwright

Areas of Specialization:

- History of Early Modern Philosophy (esp. Leibniz, Kant)
- Ethics

Areas of Competence:

- Metaphysics
- Philosophy of Religion
- East Asian Philosophy
- Pragmatism

Publications and Book Reviews:

“Nonhuman Chimeras with Human Brain Cells” *Between The Species*, Issue VII: August 2007,
<<http://cla.calpoly.edu/~jlynch/07SotnakArticle.html>>

“The Kalam Cosmological Argument and the Possibility of an Actual Infinite” *Philo*, 2:2 (1999), pp. 41-52.

“The Range of Leibnizian Compatibilism” in *New Essays on the Rationalists*, ed. Charles Heunemann and Rocco Gennaro, (Cambridge, MA: Oxford University Press, 1999), pp. 200-223.

"Primary and Secondary Divine Decrees in The Leibniz-Arnauld Correspondence" *Studia Leibnitiana*, Band XXVII/1, (1995), pp. 85-103.

"Kant and The Impossibility of The Soft Sciences" (with Abhaya Nayak) *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 55:1 (1995), pp. 133-151.

Review of Leibniz's Writings on China, by Daniel Cook and Henry Rosemont, *North American Leibniz Society Newsletter*, 5, (1995), pp. 33-35.

Works in Progress:

“Berkeley’s Theory of Time”

“Evil and the Argument from Negligible Differences”

Presentations:

“Fact, Fiction, and Pretense,” co-authored w/Dimitria Gatzia, North Carolina Philosophical Society Annual Meeting, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, February 2011. (Paper accepted but not presented due to snow storm).

“Are We Free to Do Evil (or Good)?,” invited lecturer, Philosophy Department Speaker Series, California State University, Sacramento, CA, October 2010.

“Skeptical Theism and Presumptive Badness,” Philosophy of Religion class of Dr. Matthew McCormick and faculty members, California State University, Sacramento, CA, October 2010.

“Fact, Fiction, and Pretense,” co-authored w/Dimitria Gatzia, Ohio Philosophical Association, Ohio University, Athens, OH, April 2009. (Presented by Dimitria Gatzia).

Comments on Monica Gerrek’s “Modified Speciesism and Humean Arguments Against It” Spring 2004 Ohio Philosophical Association

“Berkeley’s Theory of Time” presented at The Northeast Ohio Philosophy Consortium Fall Meeting, October 26, 2002.

Comments on Barbara Labossiere's "Hume, Justice, and the Example of the Family"
Spring 2001 Ohio Philosophical Association

"Abortion and the Separation of Conjoined Twins" presented at The Northeast Ohio Philosophy Consortium Fall Meeting, October 24, 1998.

Additional Professional Activities:

Philosophy of Religion Area Editor for the *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*
(<http://www.utm.edu/research/iep/>)

Editorial Consultant for *Dialogos: An Interactive Journal of the Sciences, Philosophy, and Theology*
(<http://freeway.net/~dialogos/>)

Member of Northeast Ohio Philosophy Consortium Steering Committee (1996-present)

Member of *North American Leibniz Society*

Member of *American Philosophical Association*

Teaching Experience:

The University of Akron (Associate Professor)

2001- Metaphysics, Kant, Sem: Problem of Evil, Sem: Leibniz & Berkeley

The University of Akron (Assistant Professor):

1995-2001 Introduction to Ethics, Eastern Philosophy, Introduction to Philosophy, History of Early Modern Philosophy, Philosophy of Law, British Empiricism, Continental Rationalism, Philosophy of Religion, Computer Ethics

Grinnell College (Assistant Professor):

1994-95 History of Early Modern Philosophy, Introduction to Philosophy, Ethical Theory

Ithaca College (Instructor):

1993-94 Reasoning, Medical Ethics, 17th Century Philosophy

University of Rochester (Instructor):

Spring 1993 History of Early Modern Philosophy

Sum. 1992 Reason and Argument

Spring 1992 History of Early Modern Philosophy

Sum. 1991 Philosophy of Religion

Awards and Miscellaneous:

- 2006 Recipient “Celebrating Inclusive Excellence Award” for commitment to teaching and service to students with disabilities, Office of Accessibility
- Spring 2000 Recipient of Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences Chairs’ Award for outstanding achievement in Research
- Sum. 1995 Participant in NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers, supervised by Jonathan Bennett, Syracuse University
- 1990-1993 Member of Lewis While Beck’s *Privatissimum* (a private seminar for graduate students)