

RYAN POLLOCK

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy, 2015

Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

Dissertation Title: “The Party of Humankind”: Sociality and Moral Revision in David Hume

M.A. Philosophy, 2013

Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

B.A. Philosophy with Spanish minor, 2009

University of Dayton, Dayton, OH

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETENCE

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

David Hume, Scottish Enlightenment Moral Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Logic, Ethics and Applied Ethics, Bioethics, Professional Ethics, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Death

APPOINTMENTS

2024-present Adjunct Faculty, Southern New Hampshire University

2023-present Adjunct Faculty, Penn State University

2020-present Adjunct Faculty, Texas A&M University-San Antonio

2021-2025 Part-Time Faculty, University of Providence

2021-2022 Adjunct Faculty, Eastern Gateway Community College

2020-2021 Adjunct Faculty, University of Providence

2019-2020 Adjunct Professor, Grand Valley State University

2016-2019 Visiting Assistant Professor, Grand Valley State University

2015-2016 Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellow, Penn State University

2010-2015 Graduate Assistant Instructor, Penn State University

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2019 [The Limits of Sympathetic Concern and Moral Consideration in Adam Smith.](#) *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 36(3): 257-277.
- 2017 [Sociability and the Influence of the General Point of View in Hume.](#) *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 34(1): 17-35.
- 2016 [Hume and the Problem of Paternalism: When is Humanity Sufficient?](#) *The Southern Journal of Philosophy* 54(1): 107-128.
- 2016 Co-authored with David W. Agler. [Hume and Peirce on the Ultimate Stability of Belief.](#) *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 97(2): 245-269.
- 2014 [Evaluating the State of Nature through Game Play.](#) *Teaching Philosophy* 37(1): 57-72.

BOOK REVIEWS AND ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

- 2020 [Review of Phillip A. Reed and Rico Vitz \(eds.\), *Hume's Moral Philosophy and Contemporary Psychology*.](#) *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 17(4): 445-448.
- 2019 [David Hume: Moral Philosophy.](#) *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.
- 2012 [Review of Anik Waldow, *David Hume and the Problem of Other Minds*.](#) *Tradition and Discovery: The Polanyi Society Periodical* 39(1): 76-9.

PRESENTATIONS

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 Artificial Lives and Artificial Philosophy: The Centrality of Hume's Wide View of Virtue. Ohio Philosophical Association Annual Meeting. Ohio Dominican University, Columbus, OH. April 11.
- 2017 Smith on Illusive Sympathy and the Limits of Moral Consideration. Tennessee Philosophical Association 48th Annual Meeting. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. October 27-28.
- 2016 Reforming Immediate Agreeability: Hume's Portrait of Military Heroism. Colloquium Presentation at the Eastern Division Meeting of the APA. Washington, DC. January 6-9.
- 2015 Human Sociability and the General Point of View in Hume. South Central Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy. University of Texas, Austin, TX. October 16-17.

- 2015 Human Sociability and the General Point of View in Hume. Atlantic Canada Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy. Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS. July 8-10.
- 2015 The Generosity and Capacity of Our Nature: Hume's Reply to Hutcheson in the *Treatise*. Joint Meeting of the Indiana Philosophical Association and the Kentucky Philosophical Association. Owensboro, KY. April 10-11.
- 2014 The Generosity and Capacity of Our Nature: Hume's Reply to Hutcheson in the *Treatise*. Colloquium Presentation at the Eastern Division Meeting of the APA. Philadelphia, PA. December 27-30.
- 2013 Uniting Philosophical Painting and Anatomy through Hume's Mitigated Skepticism. Lehigh University's Inaugural Annual Philosophy Conference "The Last Chapter." Bethlehem, PA. October 3-4.
- 2013 Hume and the Extension of Justice. 40th Annual Hume Society Conference. Belo Horizonte, Brazil. July 22-27.
- 2012 Using Games in the Philosophy Classroom. Nineteenth International Conference-Workshop on Teaching Philosophy. St. Edwards University, Austin, Texas. July 25-29.
- 2011 Stability and Skepticism: An Action-Based Interpretation of Hume's Notion of Belief. Belief and Doubt in David Hume. Prague, Czech Republic. September 6-8.

COMMENTARIES, DEPARTMENTAL TALKS, AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 Smith on Illusive Sympathy and the Limits of Moral Consideration. Grand Valley State Philosophy Colloquium. Grand Valley State University. Allendale, MI. September 29.
- 2017 Hume's Delicate Taste in Military Heroism. Grand Valley State Philosophy Colloquium. Grand Valley State University. Allendale, MI. March 17.
- 2015 Hume and the Problem of Paternalism. Poster Presentation at the Penn State Graduate School Exhibition. University Park, PA. March 22.
- 2014 Commentary on Travis Timmerman's Reconsidering Categorical Desire Views. First Annual Penn State Philosophy Graduate Student Organization Conference. University Park, PA. March 1-2.
- 2012 Hume and the Extension of Justice. Departmental talk in Penn State's Philosophy Research Colloquium. Penn State University. University Park, PA. October 5.

AWARDS

- 2015 [Alumni Association Dissertation Award](#). Awarded by Penn State Graduate Council Committee on Fellowships and Awards. Awarded across all departments for outstanding

scholarship by a doctoral student in his or her final year of study and is considered among the most prestigious available to Penn State graduate students.

- 2015 Philosophy Graduate Research Award. Awarded by Penn State Philosophy.
- 2014 Graduate Student Travel Stipend. Awarded by the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association.
- 2014 Philosophy Graduate Teaching Award. Awarded by Penn State Philosophy.
- 2014 [Harold F. Martin Graduate Assistant Outstanding Teaching Award](#). Awarded by the Penn State University Graduate School and the Office of the Vice President and Dean for Undergraduate Education. Given annually to the ten best graduate student instructors across all departments.
- 2013 Hume Society Young Scholar Award. Awarded by the Hume Society at the 40th Annual Hume Society Conference in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND CERTIFICATIONS

Updated through the Spring of 2026

COURSES TAUGHT AT SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY

- PHL 260: Ethical Decision-Making & Problem Solving (numerous asynchronous online sections)
- PHL 218: Ethics in Global Society (numerous asynchronous online sections)

COURSES TAUGHT AT UNIVERSITY OF PROVIDENCE

- PHL 101: What does it mean to be human? (numerous asynchronous online sections)
- PHL 301: Ethics (numerous asynchronous online sections)
- ILC 355: Faith and Reason (3 asynchronous online sections)

COURSES TAUGHT AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY – SAN ANTONIO

- PHIL 1301: Introduction to Philosophy (numerous asynchronous online sections)

COURSES TAUGHT AT EASTERN GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- PHI 202: Ethics (numerous asynchronous online sections)

COURSES TAUGHT AT GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

- PHI 101: Introduction to Philosophy (numerous sections)
- PHI 102: Ethics (4 sections)
- PHI 103: Logic (numerous sections)

- PHI 325: Ethics in Professional Life (4 sections)
- PHI 341: Philosophy of Death and Dying (1 section)

COURSES TAUGHT AT PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

- PHIL 001: Basic Problems of Philosophy (3 sections)
- PHIL 002: Philosophy, Politics, and Social Theory (2 sections)
- PHIL 003: Persons, Moral Values, and the Good Life (4 sections)
- PHIL 010: Critical Thinking (2 asynchronous online sections)
- PHIL 012: Symbolic Logic (1 in-person section, 3 asynchronous online sections)
- PHIL 083: First Year Seminar-Bioethics (2 sections)
- PHIL 103: Ethics (numerous asynchronous online sections)
- PHIL 103W: Ethics-Writing Intensive (1 in-person, numerous asynchronous online sections)
- PHIL 105: Philosophy of Law and Legal Ethics (1 section, 1 asynchronous online section)
- PHIL 119: Ethical Leadership (3 asynchronous online sections)
- PHIL 123: Introduction to Ethics in Media and Journalism (2 sections)
- PHIL 132: Introduction to Bioethics (5 sections)
- PHIL 202: Modern Philosophy (1 section)

TEACHING CERTIFICATIONS

2024 Online Faculty Training and Assessment (Southern New Hampshire University)

2020 Foundations of Online/Hybrid Course Development (Grand Valley State University)

SERVICE AND ASSISTANTSHIPS

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2021	Conducted Departmental Discussion on Balancing Grading Standards with Student Support (University of Providence)
2015	Lead Workshop on Teaching Introductory Philosophy Courses (Penn State)
2014	Bioethics Hiring Committee Graduate Student Representative (Penn State)
2012-2013	Graduate Student Secretary (Penn State)
2012	Online Tutor for Symbolic Logic (Penn State)
2012	Video Tutorial Assistant for Online Logic Class (Penn State)
2010-2012	Philosophy Research Colloquia Coordinator (Penn State)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2020 Referee for *History of Philosophy Quarterly*
2020 Referee for *Synthese*
2018 Referee for *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*
2015 Referee for *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*

ASSISTANTSHIPS

2013 Research Assistant for the Rock Ethics Institute at Penn State (Bioethics Initiative)

REFERENCES

References available upon request.