

JOSHUA C. THUROW

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Epistemology, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Religion

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Mind, Cognitive Science, History of Modern Philosophy, Ethics

EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Philosophy	2007	University of Wisconsin - Madison
M.A.	Philosophy	2004	University of Wisconsin - Madison
B.S.	Philosophy	1999	University of Wisconsin - Madison
	Astronomy/Physics		

DISSERTATION

The A Priori: A Defense via Explanation (Defended 5/2007)

Keith Yandell (Chair), Alan Sidelle, Juan Comasana, Russ Shafer-Landau

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, The University of Texas at San Antonio, August 2012 - Present

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Mount Marty College, August 2008 - August 2012

Visiting Assistant Professor, Augustana College, September 2007 – August 2008

Lecturer, Marquette University, January – May 2007

Lecturer and Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin – Madison, August 2000 – December 2006

BOOK

The A Priori in Philosophy, ed. Joshua C. Thurow and Albert Casullo (Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2013). This is a collection of all-new essays on the a priori and its role in philosophy. I wrote the introduction and contributed an essay.

ARTICLES

“On Counterfactuals of Libertarian Freedom: Is There Anything I Would Have Done if I Could Have Done Otherwise?”, coauthored with Paul Anders and Ken Hochstetter, *American Philosophical Quarterly* (forthcoming; accepted Feb. 25, 2013).

“Moral Intuitionism Defeated?”, coauthored with Nathan Ballantyne, *American Philosophical Quarterly* (forthcoming; accepted Feb. 4, 2013).

“Some Reflections on Cognitive Science, Doubt, and Religious Belief” in _____, ed. Roger Trigg (____: Ashgate Press, forthcoming 2013).

“Does the Scientific Study of Religion Cast Doubt on Theistic Belief?” in *Challenges to Moral and Religious Belief*, ed. Michael Bergmann and Patrick Kain (Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2013).

“The Implicit Conception and Intuition Theory of the A Priori, with Implications for Experimental Philosophy,” in *The A Priori in Philosophy*, ed. Joshua C. Thurow and Albert Casullo (Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2013).

“Religion, ‘Religion’, and Tolerance,” in *Religion, Intolerance, and Conflict: A Scientific and Conceptual Investigation*, ed. S. Clarke, R. Powell and J. Savulescu (Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2013).

“Does Cognitive Science Show Belief in God to be Irrational? The Epistemic Consequences of the Cognitive Science of Religion,” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* (forthcoming in print, published online April 2011).

“The Defeater Version of Benacerraf’s Problem for a Priori Knowledge,” *Synthese* (forthcoming in print, published online February 2011).

“Does Religious Disagreement Actually Aid the Case for Theism?” in *Probability in the Philosophy of Religion*, ed. Jake Chandler and Victoria S. Harrison (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012): 209-224.

“The A Priori Defended: A Defense of the Generality Argument” *Philosophical Studies* 146.2 (2009): 273-289.

“Experientially Defeasible A Priori Justification” *The Philosophical Quarterly* 56.225 (2006): 596-602.

GRANTS

Received a Summer Stipend from the Analytic Theology Project at the University of Notre Dame.

Project Title: The Relationship between Communal Atonement and Individual Redemption

Grant Period: Summer, 2013

Amount: \$5,000

Received a Summer Stipend from the Analytic Theology Project at the University of Notre Dame.

Project Title: Community, Substitution, and Atonement

Grant Period: Summer, 2012

Amount: \$5,000

Won a one-year grant from the Cognition, Religion, and Theology Project at the Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology at the University of Oxford for a research project.

Project Title: “The Argument from Desire: An Investigation of the Direct and Indirect Epistemic Consequences of Cognitive Science of Religion for Religious Belief”

Grant Period: October 1 2009 – August 1 2010

Amount: £11,575 (~\$19,000)

UNDER REVIEW

“Universalism and Frozen Worlds,” 12 pp., *Analytic Philosophy*

WORK IN PROGRESS

“How Valuable is Truth? or, Is Truth Just a Trinket?”

“Communal Substitutionary Atonement”

REVIEWS

Book review of William A. Lauinger, Well-Being and Theism, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, March 7, 2013.

Book review of Jesse Bering, The Belief Instinct, *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion* (forthcoming).

Book review of C. Stephen Evans, Natural Signs and Knowledge of God, *Faith and Philosophy* (forthcoming).

Book review of Michael Murray, Nature Red in Tooth and Claw, *Religious Studies Review* (forthcoming).

Book review of Michael Martin and Ricki Monnier, eds. The Improbability of God, *Religious Studies Review* 36.2 (2010): 128.

Book review of Stephen T. Davis, Christian Philosophical Theology, *Faith and Philosophy* 25.1 (2008): 113-116.

Book review of Alexander R. Pruss, The Principle of Sufficient Reason: A Reassessment, *Religious Studies Review* 33.3 (2007): 222-3.

Book review of Bede Rundle, Why there is Something rather than Nothing, *Religious Studies Review* 33.1 (2007): 35-6.

Book review of Andrew Dole and Andrew Chignell, eds. God and the Ethics of Belief, *Religious Studies Review* 32.4 (2006): 248.

Book review of Christopher Peacocke, The Realm of Reason, *Philosophia Christi* 8.1 (2006): 169-172.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

"The Kinematics of the Ionized Gas in IC 10" *The Astronomical Journal* 129:745-767, 2005 February, coauthored with Eric M. Wilcots

"WIYN Integral Field Unit Study of the Kinematics of the Ionized Gas in NGC 4214" *The Astrophysical Journal* 555: 758-774, 2001 July, coauthored with Eric M. Wilcots

PAPERS GIVEN

"Lewis's Argument from Desire and the Cognitive Science of Religion"
3rd Annual Houston Baptist University Philosophy Conference, HBU, March 2013

"Some Reflections on Cognitive Science, Doubt, and Religious Belief"
8th Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference, Baylor University, February 2013

"Does the Scientific Study of Religion Cast Doubt on Belief in God?"
Martineau Lecture, University of Tasmania, Australia, October 2012

"Intuitionism Defeated?" co-authored with Nathan Ballantyne
Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Seattle, 2012
The University of Texas at San Antonio, February 2012

"ICIng on the Cake: A Theory of the a Priori, with Implications for Experimental Philosophy"
"Experimental Philosophy and its Critics," Conference, Mississippi Philosophical Association, University of Mississippi, October 2011.

“Against Counterfactuals of Libertarian Freedom – There is Nothing I Would have Done if I Could Have Done Otherwise,” co-authored with Paul Anders
Central States Philosophical Association, St. Louis, September 2011.
Central Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Chicago, 2012.

“How Valuable is Truth? or, Is Truth Just a Trinket?”
2nd Annual USD Philosophy Conference, University of South Dakota, April 2011

“The Cognitive Science of Religion and the Rationality of Theistic Belief”
South Dakota Philosophy Conference, Augustana College, October 2010

“The Argument from Desire: A Case Study on the Impact of CSR on Theistic Arguments”
Merton College, Oxford University, UK, June 2010

“Does Cognitive Science of Religion Cast Doubt on Religious Belief?”
European Society for the Study of Science and Theology Conference, “Is Religion Natural?”
University of Edinburgh, UK, April 2010

“Does Cognitive Science Show Belief in God to be Irrational? The Epistemic Consequences of the Cognitive Science of Religion”
The Concept of God and the Cognitive Science of Religion Conference, University of Birmingham, UK, June 2009
Pacific Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, Fort Lewis College, October 2009

“Does Religious Disagreement Actually Aid the Case for Theism? Disagreement Trailblazing for the Miraculous”
Formal Methods in the Epistemology of Religion Conference, University of Leuven, Belgium, June 2009

“A New Theory of the A Priori” (New Version)
“New Directions in Epistemology,” annual symposium of the Canadian Society for Epistemology, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada, November 2008

“The A Priori Defended: A Defense of the Generality Argument” (New Version)
Young Philosophers Lecture Series, State University of New York at Fredonia, April 2008

“A New Theory of the a Priori”
University of South Alabama, January 2008

“The a Priori: A Defense via Explanation”
University of St. Andrews, Scotland, March 2007

“The Defeater Version of Benacerraf’s Problem for a Priori Knowledge”
Valparaiso University, February 2007

“The A Priori Defended: A Defense of the Generality Argument”
American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting, Chicago, 2007.
Rochester Graduate Student Epistemology Conference, University of Rochester, 2006.

“Universalism and Frozen Worlds”
Metaphysics Without Apology: Themes from the work of E.J. Lowe, SUNY – Buffalo, 2006.

“Fallible A Priori Justification and Semantic Theories of the A Priori”

Third Annual University of Miami Graduate Student Conference in Epistemology, Florida, 2006.

“Knowing God A Priori”

Conference in Honor of Keith E. Yandell, University of Wisconsin – Madison, 2005.

“The Testability of Theism”

The Eastern Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, Cumberland College, Kentucky, 2004.

“The Skeptical Argument from Moral Explanations and the A Priori”

The Wisconsin Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Marquette University, 2004.

“Time, Incarnation, and the Nature of Persons”

International Conference on Persons, University of Memphis, 2003.

“Some Comments on Christopher Brown’s Paper on Aquinas’s View of the Nature of Persons and the Doctrine of the Resurrection”

International Conference on Persons, University of Memphis, 2003.

“The Fine-Tuning Design Argument and the Epistemology of Observation”

University of Illinois 25th Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, Urbana-Champaign, 2003.

POPULAR LEVEL TALKS AND GUEST LECTURES

“Religion and Science: Friends, Foes, or Strangers?”

Noon Forum, Mount Marty College, November 2010

“Philosophical Approaches to Scientific Reasoning”

Mount Marty College, October 2010

“What is this thing called ‘morality’ and did we make it up?”

Young Philosophers Lecture Series, State University of New York at Fredonia, April 2008

Over twenty 30-minute introductory talks on astronomy given at State parks across Wisconsin

Universe in the Park outreach program, University of Wisconsin – Madison, 2000-2007

HONORS

Received the James Award from Mount Marty College in 2011 – an annual award to one faculty member for excellence in research and publication.

Selected as a participant in the Purdue Summer Seminar on Perceptual, Moral, and Religious Skepticism at Purdue University, June 2011. Selection process was competitive. \$5,000 stipend.

Selected as a participant in the St. Thomas Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion, June 2011. Selection process was competitive. I turned down this offer because it conflicted with the Purdue Seminar.

Selected as a participant in the Cognition, Religion, and Theology Project Summer Workshop, Oxford University, August 10 – 22, 2009. Selection process was competitive. Participants attended talks and developed a research proposal, which was then considered for a research grant.

Selected as a lecturer for the Young Philosophers Lecture Series, March 2008. Selects scholars who have received their Ph.D. within the last 6 years. Selection process is competitive. Lecturers give a research talk and a public talk. Talks are podcasted.

Graduate Travel Stipend Award for “The a Priori Defended: A Defense of the Generality Argument,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division, April 2007

Vilas Travel Fellowship, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Fall 2005

Nominated by the Philosophy Department for a dissertation fellowship from the University of Wisconsin – Madison Graduate School, Spring 2005 and Spring 2006. Only 3 students of the approximately 25 dissertators in the department are nominated each year.

TEACHING - FULL RESPONSIBILITY

Introduction to Philosophy (UW – Madison)

Basic Philosophical Problems (UTSA)

Philosophy of Human Nature (Marquette University, Mount Marty College)

Knowledge and Values (Augustana College)

Introduction to Logic (Mount Marty College)

Critical Reasoning (Augustana College)

Reason in Communication (UW – Madison)

Critical Thinking in Ethics (Mount Marty College)

Contemporary Moral Issues (UTSA)

Philosophy in Everyday Life: Friendship, Love, Sex, Food, and God (Mount Marty College)

Classics of Western Thought (Augustana College)

History of Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (Mount Marty College)

History of Modern and Contemporary Philosophy (Mount Marty College)

Contemporary Analytic Philosophy (UTSA)

Philosophical Ethics (Mount Marty College)

Approaches to Knowledge and Reality (UTSA)

Epistemology (Augustana College, Mount Marty College)

Metaphysics: The Nature of Reality (Mount Marty College)

Religion and Science: Friends, Foes, or Strangers? (Mount Marty College)

Philosophy of Punishment (Independent study course, Mount Marty College)

Political Philosophy (Independent study course, Mount Marty College)

Introduction to Astronomy (UW – Madison)

Earth Science Astronomy I: Planets and the Solar System (Mount Marty College)

Earth Science Astronomy II: Stars, Galaxies, and Cosmology (Mount Marty College)

TEACHING - TEACHING ASSISTANT (ALL AT UW-MADISON)

Reason in Communication (Malcolm Forster)

Introduction to Philosophy (Alan Sidelle)

Introduction to Philosophy (Juan Comesana)
History of Modern Philosophy (Keith Yandell)
History of Ancient Philosophy (Paula Gottlieb)
Philosophy of Religion (Keith Yandell)
Introduction to Astronomy (James Lattis)
The Solar System (Eric Wilcots)
Stars, Galaxies, and Cosmology (Ronald Reynolds)
The Evolving Universe: Stars, Galaxies, and Cosmology (Matthew Bershady)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Philosophy Department Service, UTSA, 2012-2013: SECC Area Champion, Faculty Advisory Committee, Award Nomination Committee, Philosophy Program Assessment Committee.

Commentator, Amy Seymour, "Erasing or Covering Sin?" BGND Philosophy of Religion Conference, San Antonio, TX, November 2012.

Chair of session, Richard Sosis and Jordan Kiper, "Religion is More than Belief," Challenges to Religious and Moral Belief: Disagreement and Evolution, Purdue University, September 2012.

Organizer, 2nd Annual South Dakota Philosophy Convention, Augustana College, November 2011.

Presented at a Faculty Development Session on Using Moodle, the course management system, Mount Marty College, January 2012.

Member of Mission Effectiveness Committee, Mount Marty College, Fall 2011 – Spring 2012

Chair, 2011 Central APA meeting, Gary Varner, "Persons, Near-Persons, and 'the Merely Sentient' in the Autozoetic Consciousness Paradigm."

Served on search committees (3) for philosophy, religious studies, and physics positions, Mount Marty College.

Member of Assessment Committee, Mount Marty College, Fall 2010 – Spring 2012

Member of committee on Learning and Research for Mount Marty College's Higher Learning Commission accreditation review, Fall 2010 – Spring 2012.

Freshman Advisor, Mount Marty College, Fall 2009 – Spring 2011.

Served on the Core Curriculum Committee at Mount Marty College, 2008-2010.

Chair, 2008 Midwest Epistemology Workshop, University of Nebraska, Jonathan Weinberg, "Regress-Stopping for Neopragmatists"

Chair, 2006 Central APA meeting, Marc Alspector-Kelly, "Empiricism as Stance and Empiricism Naturalized."

Referee for The Philosophical Quarterly, Synthese, Philosophia, Southern Journal of Philosophy, Philosophical Studies, American Philosophical Quarterly, Journal of Philosophical Research, Dialectica, Philosophical Psychology, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research.

Manuscript reviewer for Palgrave Macmillan.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2 week writing challenge, National Center for Faculty Development, November-December 2012.

Tenure and Time Management Seminar, given by Kerry Ann Rockquomore, UTSA, November 2012.

Took a Cengage Webinar on Motivating Students, October 2010.

Attended a day-long teaching workshop taught by L. Dee Fink, director of the Instructional Development Program at the University of Oklahoma, August 2007.

Participated in monthly Teaching Circle meetings at Augustana College, September 2007 – May 2008.

REFERENCES

Keith Yandell (608) 263-3725 yandell@facstaff.wisc.edu
Julius Weinberg Professor of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
University of Wisconsin – Madison
600 N. Park St.
Madison, WI 53706

Alan Sidelle (608) 263-3724 asidelle@wisc.edu
Professor of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
University of Wisconsin – Madison
600 N. Park St.
Madison, WI 53706

Juan Comesaña (608) 263-7457 comesana@email.arizona.edu
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
University of Arizona
Social Science Building Rm. 213
Tucson, AZ 85721

Albert Casullo (420) 472-2429 acasullo@unlserve.unl.edu
Professor of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
University of Nebraska – Lincoln
1010 Oldfather Hall
P.O. Box 880321
Lincoln, NE 68588

Elliott Sober (608) 263-7478 ersober@wisc.edu
Hans Reichenbach Professor of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
University of Wisconsin – Madison
600 N. Park St.
Madison, WI 53706