

Michael James Augustin

Department of Philosophy
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Employment

2021- Assistant Teaching Professor, Pennsylvania State University
2018-2021 Postdoctoral Research Associate in Philosophy, joint appointment in Cornerstone Integrated Liberal Arts, Purdue University

Education

2012-2018 Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of California, Santa Barbara
Dissertation: Self-instantiation in Plato's *Parmenides* and *Sophist*
Committee: Voula Tsouna (chair), Richard Bett, Thomas Holden, Richard McKirahan
2009-2012 M.A. in Philosophy, Georgia State University
Thesis: Patient-Relativity and the Efficacy of Epicurean Therapy
Committee: Timothy O'Keefe (chair), Jessica Berry, Andrew I. Cohen
2005-2009 B.A. *Summa Cum Laude* in Philosophy, Arizona State University

Area of Specialization

Ancient Philosophy

Areas of Competence

Aesthetics, Buddhist Philosophy, Moral Philosophy

Publications

2021 "Self-Instantiation and Self-Participation." *Plato Journal* 22: 11-17
2021 "Life and Lifeforms in Early Greek Atomism." Co-author with Caterina Pellò. *Apeiron*
<https://doi.org/10.1515/apeiron-2021-0035>
2017 "Epicureanism and the Health of the Soul." In *Ancient Thought*, edited by N. J. Barnes, J. Carroll, O. Langworthy, and E. MacGillivray
2015 "Weight in Greek Atomism." *Φιλοσοφία* 45: 76-99.

Book reviews

Review of *Plato's Essentialism: reinterpreting Plato's theory of forms* by V. Politis (forthcoming in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*)
Review of *Health and Hedonism in Plato and Epicurus* by K. Arenson. *Ancient Philosophy* 41.2 (2021): 578-583.

Works in Progress

"Negative Predication in *Parmenides* 161e-162b." (revise and resubmit with *Rhizomata*)
"Proclus and the Likeness Regress (*Prm.* 132c-133a)." (under review)

“Revisiting Becoming-Is-Being (*Sph.* 246a-249d).”

“Democritus on the Non-necessity of Children.”

Invited Talks

“Speech, Thought, and the Interweaving of Forms.”

- ◆ 2018: American University in Cairo, Middle Eastern Society for Analytic Philosophy

Conference Presentations

“Non-human Animals and Malformed Offspring in Early Greek Atomism.”

- ◆ 2021: University of South Florida, Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies

“Life and Lifeforms in Early Greek Atomism.”

- ◆ 2020: University of London, London Ancient Science Conference

“If the One is not’ (*Prm.* 160b-164b).”

- ◆ 2019: Institut National d’Histoire de l’Art, *Symposium Platonicum XII*

“‘Like to Like’ in Leucippus and Democritus.”

- ◆ 2018: European Conference Center at Delphi, International Association for Presocratic Studies

“Aristotle on the Impossibility of the Void.”

- ◆ 2019: Westin Denver Downtown, American Philosophical Association, Central Division
- ◆ 2019: University of London, London Ancient Science Conference
- ◆ 2016: University of Texas at Austin, International Association for Presocratic Studies

“The Sceptic’s Beliefs.”

- ◆ 2015: University of Kentucky, Ancient Philosophy Society

“Weight in Greek Atomism.”

- ◆ 2014: Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and Interdisciplinary Center for Aristotle Studies, International Association for Presocratic Studies

“Would Epicurus Have Drugged His Followers?”

- ◆ 2012: University of Witwatersrand, Conference on “Philosophy and the Moral Life”
- ◆ 2012: University of San Francisco, Ancient Philosophy Society
- ◆ 2011: Fordham University Lincoln Center, Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy

“Atomism and Cheerfulness: An Attempt at a Physical Interpretation of Democritus fr. B191.”

- ◆ 2012: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, International Association for Presocratic Studies

Comments

Comments on “The Soul’s Tool: Plato on the Usefulness of the Body” by Doug Campbell.

- ◆ Plato Colloquium, Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, February 2020

Teaching Experience

G = graduate seminar

U = upper-division undergraduate course; L = lower-division undergraduate course

F = Fall; W = Winter; S = Spring; SU = Summer

As Instructor of Record

Film and Philosophy (L)	S '22
Fate and Free Will (L)	F '20
Plato's Metaphysics and Epistemology (G)	S '20
Transformative Texts I: Antiquity to Modernity (L)	F '18, S '19, F '19, S '20, F '20
Ethics (U/L)	SU '15, SU '16, F '18, F '21, S '22
Buddhist Philosophy (U)	W '18, S '22
Hellenistic Philosophy (U)	W '16
Ancient Philosophy (L)	F '15, F '21, S '22
Introduction to Philosophy (L)	F '11, S '12, SU '13
Critical Thinking through Writing (L)	F '10, S '11

As Teaching Assistant

Philosophy of Mind (U)	S '15
Ethics (U)	F '14, S '16
Introduction to Philosophy (L)	SU '14
Early Modern Philosophy (L)	S '14
Medieval Philosophy (L)	W '14, W '15
Introduction to Ethics (L)	F '13, S '18
Ancient Philosophy (L)	F '12, F '17

Fellowships and Awards

2019	Postdoctoral Supplemental Travel Grant, Purdue University
2018	Postdoctoral Supplemental Travel Grant, Purdue University
2018	Academic Senate Travel Grant, University of California, Santa Barbara
2017	Charlotte Stough Memorial Prize, University of California, Santa Barbara
2016	Regents Special Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara
2016	Graduate Student Association's Travel Grant, University of California, Santa Barbara
2016	Paul Wienpahl Award for Teaching Excellence, University of California, Santa Barbara
2015	Graduate Student Association's Travel Grant, University of California, Santa Barbara
2013	Charlotte Stough Memorial Prize, University of California, Santa Barbara
2013	Graduate Student Association's Travel Grant, University of California, Santa Barbara
2012	Regents Special Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara
2012	Phi Sigma Tau (Zeta) — Scholar Travel Stipend, Georgia State University
2011	Professional Development Travel Grant, Georgia State University
2011	Phi Sigma Tau (Zeta) — Scholar Travel Stipend, Georgia State University
2008	Sun Angel Excellence in the Humanities Research Scholarship, Arizona State University

Service

Journal referee: *Acta Classica*, *Aperion*, *Philosophical News*

PhilPapers Leaf Editor for Philodemus

Principal organizer for *An Ancient Philosopher Retires: A conference in celebration of Patricia Curd's career and retirement*, Purdue University, 26 – 27 April 2019

Recurring guest on Season 3 of *The Grindstone: The Purdue Philosophy Department's Podcast*

Languages

Ancient Greek

Latin

Professional Societies

American Philosophical Association

Ancient Philosophy Society

International Association for Presocratic Studies

International Plato Society (Full member)

International Society for Socratic Studies

Society of Ancient Greek Philosophy

References

Dr. Richard Bett, Department of Philosophy, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 21218. email: rbett1@jhu.edu phone: (410) 516 6863

Dr. Patricia Curd, Department of Philosophy, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907. email: zeno@purdue.edu phone: (765) 494-4287

Dr. Richard McKirahan, Department of Classics, Pomona College, Claremont, CA 91711. email: richard_mckirahan@pomona.edu phone: (909) 413 6108

Dr. Voula Tsouna, Department of Philosophy, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106. email: vtouna@philosophy.ucsb.edu phone: (805) 893 3990

Dr. Melinda Zook, Department of History, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907. email: mzook@purdue.edu phone: (765) 494 4134