

David J. Baggett

Curriculum Vitae

Professor of Philosophy
School of Religion, Liberty University
Department of Philosophy and Theology

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Ethics and Meta-ethics
Philosophy of Religion
Moral Apologetics

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of William James
Philosophical Theology
Religious Epistemology
Philosophy and Popular Culture
C.S. Lewis
Philosophy of Sport

EDUCATION

B.A. University of Michigan-Dearborn (Philosophy major; English minor), 1988
M.Div. Asbury Theological Seminary, 1992
Ph.D. Wayne State University, Philosophy, 2002

TEACHING POSITIONS

Wayne County Community College, part-time instructor, 1994-1998
Henry Ford Community College, part-time instructor, 1995-2001
Wayne State University, graduate teaching assistant or adjunct, 1995-2002
University of Michigan-Dearborn, adjunct lecturer, 1994-2002
King's College, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 2002-2006
Liberty University, Associate Professor of Philosophy, 2006-09, Professor 2009-present
Liberty University, Distance Learning Instructor, 2008-present
Spring Arbor University, Distance Learning Instructor, 2008-present

DISSERTATION: *Theistic Activism and the Euthyphro Dilemma*

PHILOSOPHY COURSES TAUGHT

Critical Thinking
Ethics
Business Ethics
Theories of Knowledge
Philosophy and Popular Culture: Harry Potter and Philosophy
Introduction to Philosophy
Symbolic Logic
Comparative Religion
Philosophy of Religion
A Jamesian Critique of Humean Empiricism (independent study)
Ethics: Religious and Secular (two graduate level independent studies)
Senior Thesis on Pascal's Wager
Independent Study on C.S. Lewis and the Language of Myth

PROFESSIONAL AND HONOR SOCIETIES

American Philosophical Association
Society of Christian Philosophers
Theta Phi (Theological Honor Society)
Phi Sigma Tau (Philosophical Honor Society)

ARTICLES, NOTES, COMMENTS, OR ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

Nothing New Under the Sun: *Firefly*, Freedom, and the Utopian Vision, in *The Philosophy of Joss Whedon*, edited by Dean Kowalski, University Press of Kentucky, forthcoming 2011

Why Roger Federer is the Best: Or is it McEnroe?, in *Tennis and Philosophy*, University Press of Kentucky, forthcoming 2010

Friendship, Rivalry, Greatness, with Neil Delaney, in *Tennis and Philosophy*, University Press of Kentucky, forthcoming 2010

The Love of Wisdom, in *Tennis and Philosophy*, University Press of Kentucky, forthcoming 2010

Love Potion #9¾, in *The Ultimate Harry Potter and Philosophy: Hogwarts for Muggles*, Wiley Blackwell, forthcoming 2010

Just in Your Head? J.K. Rowling on Separating Reality from Illusion, with John Granger and Greg Bassham, in *The Ultimate Harry Potter and Philosophy: Hogwarts for Muggles*, Wiley Blackwell, forthcoming 2010

- A Man, a Friendship, and an Argument, in *Did the Resurrection Happen? A Conversation with Gary Habermas and Antony Flew*, InterVarsity, 2009
- Resurrection Matters, in *Did the Resurrection Happen? A Conversation with Gary Habermas and Antony Flew*, InterVarsity, 2009
- "Ethics" entry in the *Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*, Wiley Blackwell, forthcoming
- The Euthyphro Dilemma: A Deal-Breaker? *Dialogue*, 2008
- Amistad*: Human Rights and Human Nature, with Mark Foreman, forthcoming in *Steven Spielberg and Philosophy*, edited by Dean Kowalski, University of Kentucky Press, 2008
- Is Divine Iconoclast as Bad as Cosmic Sadist? Lewis versus Beversluis, in *C.S. Lewis as Philosopher: Truth, Goodness and Beauty*, 2008
- Bruce Russell's Analogy and the Problem of Evil, Winter 2006, *Philosophia Christi*
- Pascal Was No Fideist, Fall 2005, *Asbury Theological Journal*
- Rats in God's Laboratory: *Shadowlands* and the Problem of Evil. In *Movies and the Meaning of Life*, co-edited by Blessing and Tudico, Open Court, Spring 2005
- Magic, Muggles, and Moral Imagination. In *Harry Potter and Philosophy: If Aristotle Ran Hogwarts*, co-edited by David Baggett and Shawn Klein, Open Court, Fall 2004
- Resist Not Evil! Jesus and Nonviolence, with Gregory Bassham. In *The Passion of the Christ and Philosophy*, edited by Jorge Gracia. Open Court, Fall 2004
- On Whether God Can Sin. *Philosophia Christi*, Fall 2003 (5:1): 259-267
- Epistemic Relativism and Socially Responsible Realism: A Few Responses to Linker. *Social Epistemology*, 2002 (16:2): 169-175
- Theistic Belief and Positive Epistemic Status: A Comparison of Alvin Plantinga and William James. *Asbury Theological Journal*, 2002 (58:1): 151-165
- Comment piece, *Journal of Religious Ethics*, Summer 2001: 39-40
- On a Reductionistic Analysis of William James' Philosophy of Religion, in *Journal of Religious Ethics*, 2000 (28.3): 421-446
- Theistic Ethics: Toward a Christian Solution, *Asbury Theological Journal*, Fall 1999: 5-25
- On the Legality and Morality of Physician-Assisted Suicide, *Asbury Theological Journal*, Spring 1995: 51-66

BOOK REVIEWS

Book review of Anthony Campolo's *Speaking My Mind* in *Christian Scholar's Review*, Fall 2005

Book review of Jerry Walls' *Heaven: The Logic of Eternal Joy*, Oxford University Press 2002. *Philosophia Christi*, Fall 2003 (5:1): 328-330

Book review of Hunter Brown's *William James on Radical Empiricism and Religion*, *Review of Metaphysics*, September 2001

Book review of Robert Adams' *Finite and Infinite Goods: A Framework for Ethics*, in the *Review of Metaphysics*, March 2001

ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW OR IN PROGRESS

- "Reformed Moral Apologetics": An Oxymoron
- Dawkins on Ethics
- The Epistemic Evolution of "Faith"
- Impeccability, Calvinism, and a Good God
- The Perils of Partisanship
- A Philosophical Defense of Arminianism
- If God Weren't Good

NEWSPAPER COMMENTARY

Innocents of the World Need Your Help, *Times Leader*, June 23, 2005

EDITED BOOKS

Harry Potter and Philosophy: If Aristotle Ran Hogwarts, with Shawn Kline. Open Court Press. October 2004

Hitchcock and Philosophy: Dial M for Metaphysics, with William Drumin. Open Court Press, with William Drumin. March 2007

C.S. Lewis as Philosopher: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty. InterVarsity Press, with Jerry Walls and Gary Habermas. April 2008

Did the Resurrection Happen? A Discussion with Gary Habermas and Antony Flew. InterVarsity Press. May 2009

Tennis and Philosophy, University Press of Kentucky. Forthcoming 2010

The Ultimate Harry Potter and Philosophy: Hogwarts for Muggles, with Gregory Bassham. Wiley Blackwell. Forthcoming 2010

AUTHORED BOOKS IN PROGRESS

Good Heavens: God, Morality, and the Meaning of Life, with Jerry Walls, under review at Oxford University Press

The God Solution: Answering the Atheistic Pundits

Impeccability: The Logic of Perfect Goodness

Calvinism: A Tradition Not Quite Right

Teaching Philosophy: The Chronicles of a Philosophy Professor

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS (PROFESSIONAL & SERVICE)

If God Weren't Good, *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, New Orleans, Louisiana, November, 2009

Participant in Book Panel Discussion on *C.S. Lewis as Philosopher*, *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, Providence, Rhode Island, November, 2008

The Irrationality of Calvinism's Terrible Tenet, *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, San Diego, California, November 16, 2007

Contra Calvinism, delivered to the Philosophy Club, LU, November 7, 2007

Love Potion #9¾: Vice, Volition, and Voldemort, *Lumos*, Las Vegas, July 2006

Luncheon Panel with Francis Bridger and John Granger on "Education and Harry Potter," *Lumos*, Las Vegas, July 2006

They Who Loved Too Much: Reading *La Celestina* through the Eyes of St. Augustine, with Anne Massey, Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, April 22, 2006

The Empathy Thesis and the Human Voice, Wilkes University Women's Studies Conference, March 31, 2006

Is Divine Iconoclast as Bad as Cosmic Sadist? C.S. Lewis versus John Beversluis, Cambridge University, Oxbridge, August 2005

Shadowlands and the Meaning of life, King's College, Spring 2004

Co-led Ethics Center faculty discussion about business ethics, November 18, 2004

Divine Command Morality, Calvinism, and Human Nature. Conference on Religion & Ethics co-sponsored by the British Society for Philosophy of Religion and Society of Christian Philosophers, Oxford University, August 2003

The Perils of Partisanship, Lunch Lecture, February 14, 2003, King's College

The Euthyphro Dilemma is Dead, King's College Socratic Society, Fall 2002

The Achilles' Heel of Objections to Divine Command Theory, Aristotle Group, Fall 2000

RADIO APPEARANCES

- *Beyond Strange and Mysterious*, July 15, 2005, WSNR 620 AM out of NYC
- NPR's *On Point*, July 18, 2005, WBUR 90.9 FM out of Boston
- Prime Time America, June 17, 2008, Moody Broadcasting (400 stations)
- "Front Page" on The Path, June 23, 2008, Media Ministry, Cedarville University

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

- Reviewer for *Philosophia Christi*
- Faculty advisor to Phi Sigma Tau, 2003-2006, King's College
- Member Ethics Center Board, as of Fall 2003, King's College
- Member Moral Development Project Team, 2002-2006, King's College
- Moderated at King's College Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, 2003-2004
- Moderated at philosophy and popular culture conference, Buffalo, Spring 2004
- Member of Faculty Council, Fall 2004-Spring 2006, King's College
- Reviewed *Are You Rocking with Me, Jesus?: Dispatches from the Intersection of Christianity and Pop Culture* for Baylor University Press, Fall 2006
- Reader for Master's Comp, Fall 2006 and Spring 2007, LU
- Assessment coordinator for the Phil/Theo Dep't, 8/07-present, LU
- Director of Steve Hudson's Honors Thesis on Pascal's Wager, Spring 2008
- Member of Board of Regents of Appleseed Ministries, 2008-10, Lexington, KY
- Reviewer for the University Press of Kentucky

AWARDS

- Graduate Teaching Assistantships, Wayne State University, 1995-2001
- Graduate Summer Seminar of the Pew Younger Scholars Program on "Christian Ethics in a Pluralist Society" 1998, instructed by Gilbert Meilaender, Notre Dame University
- Summer Dissertation Fellowship, Wayne State University, 2001
- Summer Research Grant, King's College, 2004

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Bruce Russell, Professor of Philosophy, Wayne State University

Gary Habermas, Research Professor of Philosophy and Chairman of the Philosophy & Theology Department, Liberty University

Tom Morris, Chairman of the Morris Institute for Human Values, Wilmington, NC

William Irwin, Professor of Philosophy, King's College, and series editor of Wiley Blackwell's Philosophy and Popular Culture book series

Jerry Walls, Senior Research Fellow, Notre Dame University