

DREW CHASTAIN

Visiting Assistant Professor
Department of Philosophy
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Philosophy, 2003
Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana
Dissertation: "Interpreting Metaphor" (Award of Degree: August 13, 2003;
Committee: Forbes, Brower, Lodge)
- M.A. Philosophy, 1999
Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana
- B.A. Philosophy, with minor in Anthropology, 1996
University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida
Thesis: "A Challenge for Instrumental Theories of Human Ends"

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- Loyola University**, New Orleans, Louisiana (2011-present), Visiting Assistant Professor
- It Is What It Is Films**, New Orleans, Louisiana (2006-2011), Director, Writer, Video Editor
- Xavier University**, New Orleans, Louisiana (2007-2010), Assistant Professor
- Tulane University**, New Orleans, Louisiana (2004-2007), Visiting Assistant Professor, Adjunct

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Spirituality, Meaning in Life, Applied Ethics, Value Theory

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Biomedical Ethics	Race & Identity Politics	Aesthetics
Epistemology	History of Modern Philosophy	Political Philosophy
Philosophy of Language	Continental Philosophy	Metaphysics
Cognitive Science	Analytic Philosophy	Ancient Philosophy

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED)

“Sisko’s Conversion Experience and the Secularism of William James: Exploring Faith and Religion on *Deep Space Nine*.” *Deep Space Nine: Essays on the Series that Truly “Went” Where No Other Trek Had Gone Before*. Eds. Sherry Ginn and Michael G. Cornelius. McFarland & Company, Inc.

"A Conversation with Drew Chastain on the Nature of the Sacred" (co-authored with Michael Hauskeller). *The Big Questions*. Ed. Michael Hauskeller.

" A Conversation with Drew Chastain on the Nature of Meaning in Life" (co-authored with Michael Hauskeller). *The Big Questions*. Ed. Michael Hauskeller.

PUBLICATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED)

2019. “Can Life be Meaningful without Free Will?” *Philosophia*. 47 (4). 1069-1086.

2018. “Liberating Spirit from Santayana’s Spectatorial Spirituality.” *Overheard in Seville: Bulletin of the Santayana Society*. No. 36. Fall. 99-114.

2018. “Becoming a Hollow Bone: Lakota Respect for the Sacred.” *The Philosophy of Spirituality: Analytic, Continental and Multicultural Approaches to a New Field of Philosophy*. Eds. Rod Nicholls & Heather Salazar. Netherlands: Brill | Rodopi. 164-188.

2017. “Gifts Without Givers: Secular Spirituality and Metaphorical Cognition.” *Sophia*. 56 (4): 631-647.

PUBLISHED BOOK REVIEWS

2018. "Leaving Well Enough Alone: A Review of Michael Hauskeller's *Better Humans?, Sex and the Posthuman Condition*, and *Mythologies of Transhumanism*." *Ethical Perspectives*. 25 (4). 795-806. (6,000 word book review, with author’s reply)

2014. *Money for Everyone: Why We Need a Citizen’s Income*. *Basic Income Studies*. 9 (1-2): 137-140.

IN PREPARATION

“Deep Personal Meaning: A Subjective Approach to Meaning in Life” (8,000 word draft submitted to *The Journal of the Philosophy of Life*)

“Faith, Meaning and Spirituality without Religion: Critiquing Robert Solomon and Leo Tolstoy” (invited to submit to anthology *Mind Over Matter: Philosophical Essays on Faith, Self-Confidence, and Achievement*)

“Optimism and Pessimism: A Case for Ambivalence”

“Meaning and Responsibility”

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS

2021 “Faith, Meaning and Spirituality without Religion: Critiquing Robert Solomon and Leo Tolstoy.” Society for the Phenomenology of Religious Experience Spirituality and Religion. 2021 APA Central Division Meeting. Feb 25

PREVIOUS PRESENTATIONS

2020 “Deep Personal Meaning: A Subjective Approach to Meaning in Life,” The Third International Conference on Philosophy and Meaning in Life, Birmingham, UK, July 21-23 (delayed, online owing to pandemic)

2020 “Making Room for Personal Meaning,” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Memphis, TN, Mar 20-21 (canceled owing to pandemic)

2019 “Learning from Indigenous Peoples: Why Indigenous Studies?” *The Loyola Office of Diversity and Inclusion Seminar Series: “Encountering Heritage and History,”* New Orleans, LA, Nov 15 (invited)

2019 “The Normativity of Spiritual Experience”, The Religious Experience & Description Conference, Valparaiso, IN, Oct 10-12

2019 “The Nonreligious Normativity of the Sacred”, Philosophy, Politics, Anthropology and Allied Disciplines, Amsterdam, Netherlands, May 15-17

2019 “The Sacred & Morality: Human Life & the Earth,” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Memphis, TN, Mar 22-23

2018 “This Magic Moment: The Experiential Source of Spiritual Normativity.” 56th Annual Meeting of the Alabama Philosophical Society, Pensacola, FL, Sep 28-29

2018 “Spiritual Reasons as Public Reasons,” Anthrosophia Conference; & Philosophy, Politics & Economics Society, both conferences in New Orleans, LA, March

2018 "Liberating Santayana's Spirit: Naturalized Spirituality without Santayana's Intellectualism," Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 2018 APA Eastern Division Meeting, Savannah, GA, January 3

2017 "Repetition, Boredom and the Sacred," Alabama Philosophical Society, Pensacola, FL, September 29-30

2017 "Becoming a Hollow Bone: How Lakota Respect for the Sacred Fosters Morality and Meaning in Life," Anthrosophia, Loyola University, New Orleans, LA, March 8-11

2017 "The Meaningfulness of Attachment," Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, March 31–April 1.

2016 "Can Trivial or Immoral Activities Make Life More Meaningful?: What's Missing in Susan Wolf's Approach to Life Meaning," Long Island Philosophical Society, Molloy College, Rockville Centre, NY, April 9; and Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, February 19-20

2015 "Internal Meaning and Social Theory," Articulating Political Philosophy and Anthropological Theory, Method, and Evidence, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, December

2015 "Gifts without Givers: Metaphorical Gift Language and Secular Spirituality," Mississippi Philosophical Association, Millsaps College, Jackson, MS, March; and Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, March

2008 "Using a Course Portfolio to Measure and Improve Student Learning," Defining and Promoting Student Success Conference, hosted by the Faculty Resource Network, San Francisco, November, co-presented with Dr. Paul Schafer

2006 "'Thought Work' as Philosophical Practice in the Classroom," The 8th International Conference of Philosophical Practice, Seville, Spain, April

2004 "The New Orleans Lyceum," International Conference of Philosophical Practice, Copenhagen, Denmark, August, co-presented with David O'Donoghue, Director of The Lyceum

COMMENTARY

2019 Reply to Daniel Miller's "Can Morally Ignorant Agents Care Enough?," Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, March

2017 Reply to Jack Kwong's "What is Hope?", Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, March-April

2016 Reply to Douglas Henry's "The Real Euthyphro Problem," Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, February

2015 Reply to Heather Wilburn's "Experience and Contradiction: Thinking the Other of Damaged Life," Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, March

CONFERENCE/SEMINAR PARTICIPATION

2018 "The Nature of Spirituality: Santayana and Beyond," George Santayana Society, Online Seminar, Feb 16

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

2021 Organized Philosophy Department Research Group, Loyola University, 2015-present

2019 Co-organizer of the 2019 Philosophy, Politics & Anthropology Conference, Amsterdam

2018 Co-organizer of the 2018 Anthrosophia Conference, New Orleans, LA

2017 Co-organizer of the 2018 Anthrosophia Conference, New Orleans, LA

2016 A member of the steering committee for the 2017 Anthrosophia Conference, New Orleans, LA

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2020 Loyola Carter Fellowship, "Deep Personal Meaning," 2019-2020, \$400 awarded for conference travel

2019 Loyola Carter Fellowship, "The Normativity of Spiritual Experience," 2019-2020, \$1.2K awarded for conference travel

2019 Loyola Carter Fellowship, "Morality & the Sacred: Human Life & the Earth," 2018-2019, \$1K awarded for conference travel

2010 Faculty Communities of Teaching Scholars (FaCTS) grant funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (for infusion of internationalization themes and service-learning in Health Ethics), 2009-2010

NEWLY DEVELOPED COURSES

2019 (Fall) Indigenous Philosophy
2018 (Fall) The Meaning of Life
2017 (Fall) Aesthetics
2017 (Spr) The Self & the Sacred

COURSES TAUGHT

Loyola University, New Orleans, Louisiana (2011-present)

Indigenous Philosophy, 2 sections (2019)
The Meaning of Life, 2 sections (2018)
Aesthetics, 4 sections (2017, 2020)
Self & the Sacred, 2 sections (2017)
Making Moral Decisions, 25 sections (2012–2016, 2018–2020)
Philosophy of the Human Person, 26 sections (2013–2020)
Introduction to Philosophy, 4 sections (2011, 2012, 2013)

Xavier University, New Orleans, Louisiana (2007-2010)

Health Ethics, 19 sections (2007, 2008, 2010)
Problems in Philosophy, 7 sections (2007, 2008, 2010)
African-American Philosophy, 1 section (2009)
Great Books: Philosophy of Spirituality, 1 section (2009)

Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana (2004-2007)

Modern Philosophy, 4 sections (2004, 2005)
Philosophies of Self, 7 sections (1999, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007)
Introduction to Philosophy, 5 sections (2000, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2012)
Ethics, 3 sections (2006)
Philosophy of Art, 1 section (2007)
Philosophy of Film, 1 section (2007)

The New Orleans Lyceum, New Orleans, Louisiana

Baseball Ethics: You Make the Call!, 1 section (2005)
Introduction to Metaphor in Language, Art, and Culture, 1 section (2004)

Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida

Philosophy of Art, 1 section (2006)

FELLOWSHIPS

2018 Carter Fellowship, Loyola University, 2018-2019
2001 Freie Universität Exchange Fellowship, Berlin, 2000-2001
2000 Tulane Graduate Fellowship, 1997-2000

GRADUATE QUALIFYING PAPERS

"Hidden Truths: Interpreting Metaphorical Statements Truth-Conditionally," 1999
(Committee: Forbes, Brower)

"Describing Music Metaphorically," 1998 (Committee: Zimmerman, Glenn)

GRADUATE LEVEL CLASSES TAKEN

Philosophy of Language (Forbes)	Plato (Burger)
Philosophy and Gender (Zimmerman)	Heidegger (Zimmerman)
Advanced Symbolic Logic (Lee)	Aristotle (Burger)
Mathematical Logic (Forbes)	Kant (Glenn)
Metaphysics of Modality (Forbes)	Kierkegaard (Glenn)
Philosophy of Language (Brower)	Epistemology (Brower)
Cognitive Science (Bogdan)	Rationalism (Lodge)
Philosophy of Law (Mack)	

NEW ORLEANS COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The New Orleans Lyceum, New Orleans, Louisiana, 2003-2005
Administrator and Facilitator. A leader in local initiative for "Building Communities of Inquiry."

ERACE, New Orleans, Louisiana, 2004-2005
Facilitator for discussion groups, which are free and open to the public.

FILM AND MUSIC

2011 *Shine*, Documentary (3 episodes), Director, Video Editor
2010 *Double Triple Zero*, Feature (85 mins), Director, Writer, Video Editor
2009 *Half Awake*, Album (by *The Way*), Keyboards
2009 *Pals*, Short (45 mins), Director, Writer, Video Editor
2008 *Triple Zero*, Short (45 mins), Director, Writer, Video Editor
2007 *Hyacinth Girl*, Music Video (5 mins), Director, Writer, Video Editor

REFERENCES

Karl Widerquist	Jason Berntsen	Bruce Brower
Georgetown University	Xavier University	Tulane University
School of Foreign Service	1 Drexel Drive	Chairperson
Education City	New Orleans, LA 70125	6823 St. Charles Avenue

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PLACEMENT CREDENTIALS

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