

CHRISTOPHER P. NOBLE

Assistant Professor of Philosophy | New College of Florida | PME 125
5800 Bay Shore Road, Sarasota, FL 34243
noble.christopher@gmail.com | (857) 234-2309 | christopherpoble.com

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor: Philosophy, New College of Florida (2019–)

Visiting Assistant Professor: Philosophy, New College of Florida (2018–2019)

Visiting Assistant Professor: The Ethics Program, Villanova University (2017–2018)

Adjunct Professor: The Ethics Program, Villanova University (Fall 2013–Spring 2017)
Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies, Rowan University (Fall 2016)
Department of Philosophy, Villanova University (Fall 2009–Spring 2014)

EDUCATION

Villanova University. Ph.D. Philosophy (2016)
Dissertation: *The Soul as Spiritual Automaton in Leibniz's Synthetic Natural Philosophy*
Committee: Dr. Julie Klein (Director), Dr. Stephen Napier, Dr. Mogens Lærke (CNRS/ENS-Lyon)

Villanova University. M.A. Philosophy (2009)

Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Fulbright Research Fellow (2005-2006)

Boston College. B.A., Philosophy, German Studies (2005)

ACADEMIC INTERESTS & LANGUAGES

AOS: Early Modern Philosophy, History and Philosophy of Science, Historiography of Philosophy

AOC: Classical Chinese Philosophy, Medieval Philosophy, 20th Century Continental Philosophy

Languages: English, German (advanced speaking and reading), Latin (intermediate reading), French (advanced reading)

AWARDS & GRANTS

Graduate Summer Research Fellow *Villanova University* (Summer 2015, \$3,000)

- Conducted archival research at the Leibniz Archiv in Hannover, Germany.

Fulbright Research Grant. *U.S. Department of State.* Freiburg, Germany (2005-2006)

- Research topic: “Gadamer’s Hermeneutical Model of Understanding.”

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles:

- [5] “Gadamer as a Leibnizian Philosopher: Hermeneutics, Synthesis, and the Fusion of Horizons.” *Trajectories of a Multifaceted Mind. Leibniz and His Post-Idealist Legacy*, special issue of *Lo Sguardo* [In Press].
- [4] “Leibniz on the Divine Preformation of Souls and Bodies.” *HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science* 9, no. 2 (Fall 2019): 327–42.
- [3] “Immaterial Mechanism in the Mature Leibniz” *Idealistic Studies* 49, no. 1 (Spring 2019): 1–21.
- [2] “Self-Moving Machines and the Soul: Leibniz contra Spinoza on the Spiritual Automaton.” *The Leibniz Review* 27 (2017): 65–89.
- [1] “On Analogies in Leibniz’s Philosophy: Scientific Discovery and the Case of the Spiritual Automaton,” in *The Continuing Relevance of Leibniz*, ed. Charles Joshua Horn, special issue, *Quaestiones Disputatae*, 7, no. 2 (Spring 2017): 8–30.

Peer-Reviewed Book Reviews:

- [6] *The perfecting, or near perfecting, or philosophy*, review of *G. W. Leibniz: Dissertation on Combinatorial Art*, translated with introduction and commentary by Massimo Mugnai, Han van Ruler, and Martin Wilson, Oxford: Oxford University Press (2020). *Metascience* (2021). DOI: 10.1007/s11016-020-00596-y.
- [5] *Continuity, containment, and coincidence: Leibniz in the history of the exact sciences*, review of *Leibniz and the Structure of Sciences: Modern Perspectives on the History of Logic, Mathematics, and Epistemology*, edited by Vincenzo De Risi, Springer Nature (2019). *Metascience* 29, 523–526 (2020). DOI: 10.1007/s11016-020-00543-x.
- [4] Review of *Let There Be Enlightenment: The Religious and Mystical Sources of Rationality* edited by Anton M. Matytsin and Dan Edelstein, John Hopkins University Press (2018). *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 53, no. 3 (Spring 2020): 499–502.
- [3] Review Essay of *Living Mirrors: Infinity, Unity, and Life in Leibniz’s Philosophy* by Ohad Nachtomy, Oxford University Press (2019). *The Leibniz Review* 29 (2019): 141–155.
- [2] Review of *Leibniz and the Environment* by Pauline Phemister, Routledge (2016). *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* 100, no. 2 (2018): 232–35.
- [1] Review of *Hans-Georg Gadamer: Hermeneutics Between History and Philosophy: The Selected Works of Hans-Georg Gadamer: Volume I* edited by Pol Vandavelde and Arun Iyer, Bloomsbury (2016). *Phenomenological Reviews* <http://reviews.ophen.org/2018/03/05/hans-georg-gadamer-hermeneutics-between-history-and-philosophy/>

Works in Progress:

Automata and the Soul from Descartes to Deleuze [book manuscript in preparation].

“Bodies with Organs: On the Parts of Leibniz’s Machines of Nature” [Under Review]

“The Rational Reconstruction of the History of Philosophy: Lessons from Lakatos and Leibniz”

PRESENTATIONS

Refereed Conferences & Workshops:

- [21] “Three Models for Globalizing Courses in the History of Philosophy.” *Southeastern Association for the Continental Tradition* (SEACT). (April 2021).
- [20] “Leibniz, Lange, and Bilfinger on Whether the Soul is an Automaton.” *International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science* (HOPOS), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (June 2020). Presentation cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- [19] “Leibniz and the Rational Reconstruction of the History of Philosophy.” *Southeastern Association for the Continental Tradition* (SEACT), Saint Leo University, Tampa, FL (February 2020).
- [18] “Leibniz on the Instincts of Machines of Nature and Souls.” *International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science* (HOPOS), University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands (July 2018).
- [17] “Automata in Spinoza’s Critique of Descartes in the *Tractatus de Intellectus Emendatione*.” Summer School: *Collegium Spinozanum II*, University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands (July 2017).
- [16] “Understanding the Past through Past Historiography: The Case of Leibniz.” Summer School: *Understanding the Past Today: Methodology in the History of Philosophy*. University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands, (June 2017).
- [15] “The Spiritual Automaton in Deleuze.” *Theorizing at Rowan Summer Symposium: Deleuze and Guattari, Here and There, Then and Now*, Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ (June 2017).
- [14] “The Soul as Spiritual Automaton in Spinoza and Leibniz.” *New York City Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy*, Fordham University, New York, NY (May 2017).
- [13] “Leibniz, Plastic Natures, and Unknowing Activity in the *Essais de théodicée* ¶403.” *Scottish Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy*, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Scotland, (May 2016).
- [12] “On Analogies in Leibniz’s Philosophy: The Case of the Spiritual Automaton.” *The Continuing Relevance of Leibniz*, Franciscan University of Steubenville, Steubenville, OH (April 2016).
- [11] “The Soul as Principle of Individuation in Leibniz.” *Superorganisms, Organisms and Suborganisms as Biological Individuals (First Interdisciplinary Summer School on Individuality in the Life Sciences)*, Siggen, Germany (July 2015).
- [10] “The Soul as Spiritual Automaton: Leibniz’s Natural Philosophy and the Construction of Concepts.” *Leibniz-Scientist, Leibniz-Philosopher*, University of Lampeter, Lampeter, Wales (July 2015).
- [9] “Leibniz’s Critical Appropriation of Hobbesian Materialism.” *Working Group on Contemporary Materialism: Workshop on Transcendental Materialism*, Loyola University Maryland, Baltimore, MD (April 2015).
- [8] “‘Eminent Mechanism’ and the Soul in Leibniz,” *Leibniz Society of North America*, 8th Annual Meeting, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL (November 2014).
- [7] “Leibniz’s Synthesis of Causal Powers and the Laws of Nature.” *Rotman Summer Workshop on Causal Powers*, University of Western Ontario, Grand Bend, ON, Canada (July 2014).

- [6] “Is Knowledge Necessary for Action? Leibniz and the Occasionalists.” *Leibniz Society of North America*, 7th Annual Meeting, Yale University, New Haven, CT (October 2013).
- [5] “Living Mechanism in Leibniz.” *Pittsburgh Summer Symposium in Contemporary Philosophy: Schelling and Naturphilosophie*, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA (August 2013).
- [4] “Does it Matter if Deleuze is a ‘Post-Critical’ Philosopher?” *Deleuze Studies*, New Orleans, LA (July 2012).
- [3] “Leibniz’s Seashore: Individuation and Confused Perception in Leibniz and Deleuze.” *International Philosophy Colloquium Evian*, Evian, France (July 2011).
- [2] “Leibniz’s Comments on Spinoza’s Philosophy.” *Leibniz Society of North America*, 4th Annual Meeting, University of Houston, Houston, TX (December 2010).
- [1] “Material Critique and Ideology: Marx and Althusser on Social Transformation.” *Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy*, Arlington, VA (October 2009).

Invited Presentations:

- [5] “Leibnizian Reflections on Place and Community.” *PACT* (Pacific Association for the Continental Tradition) Virtual Meeting. (January 2021).
- [4] “Kant’s Dialectic of the Teleological Power of Judgment.” *Quarantine Kant Seminar* (Dr. Justin E. H. Smith). (April 2020): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6j_0CD7lvo&t=318s
- [3] “Leibniz on the Public Morality and Natural Theology of China.” *Ethics for Lunch Lecture Series*, Villanova University, Villanova, PA (November 2017).
- [2] “‘To Condemn Nothing and Profit from Everything Good:’ Leibniz and the History of Philosophy.” *Theorizing at Rowan Lecture Series*, Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ (March 2017).
- [1] “Leibniz and Technology: What Automata, Mills, and Calculators Teach Us About Cognition.” *Colloquium in the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine*, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, (October 2015).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught:

- [15] *Early Modern Women Philosophers*, New College of Florida (Fall 2021)
- [14] *What is Philosophy: Global Perspectives on Philosophical History*, “Set Sail” First-Year Seminar, New College of Florida (Fall 2021)
- [13] *Spinoza*, New College of Florida (Fall 2020)
- [12] *Philosophy of Science*, New College of Florida (Spring 2020)
- [11] *The Philosophy of Leibniz*, New College of Florida (Fall 2019)
- [10] *Philosophy and/of Film*, New College of Florida (Fall 2019, co-taught with Dr. April Flakne)

Christopher P. Noble

[9] *Modern Philosophy*, New College of Florida (Spring 2019, Spring 2021)

[8] *What is Philosophy? Global Perspectives on Philosophical History*, New College of Florida (Spring 2019, Fall 2021)

[7] *Philosophical and Utopian Literature*, New College of Florida (Spring 2019, Spring 2021)

[6] *Medieval Philosophy*, New College of Florida (Fall 2018, Fall 2020)

[5] *Classical Chinese Philosophy*, New College of Florida (Fall 2018, Spring 2020)

[4] *World Philosophy II*, Rowan University, Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies (Fall 2016)

[3] *The Good Life: Ethics and Contemporary Moral Problems*, Villanova University Ethics Program (Fall 2013–Spring 2018)

[2] *Logic and Critical Thinking*, Villanova University, Department of Philosophy (Summer 2012)

[1] *Introduction to Philosophy*, Villanova University, Department of Philosophy (Fall 2009–Spring 2014)

Tutorials Sponsored, New College of Florida. Tutorials allow individual or small groups of students to pursue projects in collaboration with a faculty member.

Classical Indian Philosophy (Upanishads and the Mahabharata) (Fall 2021), *Feminist Discussions of Work and Labor* (Spring 2021), *Philosophical Conceptions of Quantity* (Fall 2020), *Immanence and Transcendence* (Fall 2020), *Henri Bergson* (Spring 2020), *The Self in German Idealism* (Spring 2020), *Go: Theory and Practice* (January 2019; students learned to play the ancient Chinese board game Go and read associated philosophy and literature.)

Teaching Assistant: Villanova University, Department of Philosophy

- *Introduction to Philosophy* (Fall 2008, Spring 2009), *History of Early Modern Philosophy* (Spring 2008), *History of Ancient Philosophy* (Fall 2007)

SERVICE TO THE COLLEGE

Secretary of the Faculty, New College of Florida (Fall 2021–)

- Document College-wide faculty meeting proceedings and motions.

Faculty Scholarship Committee, New College of Florida (Fall 2021–)

- Review student applications for fellowships, grants, and scholarships.

Feminist Friday Coordinator, New College of Florida (Spring 2020)

- Organized weekly campus series on issues related to feminism & gender studies.

New College United Faculty of Florida Collective Bargaining Team Member (Fall 2019–)

- Represent faculty and staff union in annual collective bargaining.

Faculty Sponsor, New College of Florida

- Go Club (Fall 2019–Spring 2020); Archery Club (Spring 2021–).

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Graduate Student Representative to Faculty Search Committee, Villanova University Department of Philosophy (2014–15)

- Reviewed applications for position AOS: Kant and participated in candidate interviews.
- Acted as liaison between the Philosophy Graduate Student Union and the search committee.

Graduate Student Representative to the Faculty, Villanova University Department of Philosophy, (2011–12)

- Represented Philosophy Graduate Student Union at departmental faculty meetings.

Philosophy Graduate Student Union Co-Chair, Villanova University Department of Philosophy, (2007–08)

- Facilitated monthly meetings of the Philosophy Graduate Student Union.
- Organized 13th Annual Villanova Graduate Student Philosophy Conference: *Time, History, Memory*

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION & COMMUNITY

Peer-Review Referee:

- *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science*
- *Res Philosophica*
- *Symposium: Canadian Journal of Continental Philosophy*

Co-Founder and Member of Board of Directors of SEACT (Southeast Association for the Continental Tradition), (2019–), <https://seactphilosophy.wordpress.com/>

- Co-organize and plan annual conference (inaugural meeting was February 2020 at St. Leo University).

Philpapers.org Category Editor: “Leibniz: Philosophy of Science,” (November 2017–)

<https://philpapers.org/browse/leibniz-philosophy-of-science>

Judge, Delaware Valley Regional HS Ethics Bowl, Villanova University Ethics Program (2014–17)

- Observed discussion of ethical case studies and posed questions to facilitate further reflection.
- Evaluated teams on their overall presentation and depth of understanding of the ethical issues.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Faculty Participant- Curriculum Development Workshop: Catholic Social Teaching and Issues of Justice, Villanova University Office for Mission and Ministry (May 2013)

- Participated in week-long faculty development workshop on Catholic Social Teaching.
- Incorporated resources from Catholic Social Teaching into syllabus for *The Good Life*.

Student Participant- Collegium Phenomenologicum: The Subject of Politics Citta di Castello, Italy (Summer 2009)

- Participated in three-week summer school on Continental Political Philosophy.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association

HOPOS- The International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science

The Leibniz Society of North America

REFERENCES

Dr. Julie Klein

Associate Professor
Department of Philosophy
Villanova University, SAC 175
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085
Julie.klein@villanova.edu – (610) 519-4715

Dr. Justin E.H. Smith

University Professor of Philosophy
Université Paris Diderot – Paris 7
Department Histoire et Philosophie des Sciences
Bâtiment Condorcet – Case 7019
76025 Paris – Cedex 13- France
jehsmith@gmail.com – +33 7 78 88 20 46

Dr. Mogens Lærke

Chargé de recherche (CR1, HDR) / Senior
Researcher
Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique
(CNRS)
Institut d'histoire de la pensée classique
(IHPC, UMR 5037)
École Normale Supérieure de Lyon
15 parvis René Descartes
FR-67009 Lyon mogens.laerke@ens-lyon.fr

Dr. Miriam Wallace

Professor of English and Gender Studies
Humanities Division Chair
New College of Florida, ACE 118
5800 Bay Shore Road
Sarasota, FL 34243
mwallace@ncf.edu – (941) 487-4360

Dr. Mark Doorley

Director, The Ethics Program
Villanova University, SAC 104
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085
mark.doorley@villanova.edu – (610) 519-4736

Dr. Stephen Napier

Associate Professor
Department of Philosophy
Villanova University, SAC 166
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085
Stephen.napier@villanova.edu - (610) 519-3745

Dr. John Immerwahr

Professor Emeritus
Department of Philosophy
Villanova University
John.immerwahr@gmail.com