

EMILY A. AUSTIN

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Wake Forest University
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EMPLOYMENT

- Professor of Philosophy, Wake Forest University, July 2022-present
Acting Chair, Department of Philosophy, Jan-July 2025
Associate Chair, Department of Philosophy, July 2023-Jan 2025
- Associate Professor of Philosophy, Wake Forest University, July 2015- June 2022
- Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Wake Forest University, August 2009- June 2015

EDUCATION

- Washington University in St. Louis, Ph. D., August 2009.
Dissertation: *Fear and Death in Plato*
Committee: Eric Brown (director), John Doris, Anne Margaret Baxley
- Hendrix College, B. A. with honors in Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, May 2000.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK

- *Living for Pleasure: Epicureanism as a Way of Life*, Oxford University Press, 2022
Reviewed in *Times Literary Supplement*, *The Guardian*, *Literary Review, UK*; *Shiny New Books*,
Teaching Philosophy, *The Objective Standard*

Winner of the inaugural 2025 *Journal of the History of Philosophy* Biennial Book Prize for History of Philosophy written for the public; short-listed for 2004 Anglo-Hellenic League Runciman Award; Winner of the Wake Forest Gladding Artists and Authors Award.

Forthcoming in Spanish, Editorial Bauplan;
in Greek, A. Papasotiriou Publishing & Co;
in Arabic, Jarir Press

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 'Socrates on Why We Should Not Practice Philosophy,' *Ancient Philosophy*. 40.2: 247-265 (2020)

- 'Piety and Annihilation in Plato's *Phaedo*,' *Apeiron* 52.4: 339-358 (2019)
- 'Praising the Unjust: The Moral Psychology of Patriotism in Plato's *Protagoras*,' *Apeiron* 50.1: 21-44 (2017).
- 'Plato on Grief as a Mental Disorder,' *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* 88.1: 1-20 (2016).
- 'Legislating Immortality in Plato's *Republic*,' *Ancient Philosophy*, 36.1: 133-150 (2015).
- 'Self-Defense, Corpses, and Immortality: Callicles' Fear of Death in the *Gorgias*,' *Ancient Philosophy*, 33.1: 33-52 (2013).
- 'Epicurus and the Politics of Fearing Death,' *Apeiron*, 45. 2: 109-129 (2012).
- 'Fools and Malicious Pleasure in Plato's *Philebus*,' *History of Philosophy Quarterly*, 29. 2: 125-139 (2012).
- 'Prudence and the Fear of Death in Plato's *Apology*,' *Ancient Philosophy*, 30: 39-55 (2010).

BOOK CHAPTERS (*invited)

- 'The Philosopher and the Dialectician in Plato's *Euthydemus*,' in *A Philosophy of Inquiry: New Perspectives on Platonic Dialectic*, ed. by Kristian Larsen, Vivel Valvik Haraldsen. Routledge Press, 51-69 (2022).
- 'Socrates on Death and the Afterlife,' *Bloomsbury Companion to Socrates*, ed. by Nicolas D. Smith, Ravi Sharma, and Russell Jones (forthcoming, Bloomsbury Press). *
- 'Epicurus on Sense-Experience and the Fear of Death,' in *Routledge Handbook of Hellenistic Philosophy*, ed. by Kelly Arenson, 171-183 (2020). *

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY (ARTICLES)

- 'How to Live Like an Epicurean,' *Psyche* ([online](#)), 22 Mar. 2023
- Book Bites, *Living for Pleasure, Next Big Idea Magazine* ([online](#), text and audio), 3 Jan. 2023
- 'Are the Modern Stoics Really Epicureans?' *History News Network*, ([online](#)) 13 Nov. 2022

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY (AUDIO)

- Open to Debate, Pursuit of Happiness: Virtue or Pleasure, Invited Expert, April 2024
- Unsiloed with Greg LaBlanc, recorded October 2023
- Alfa Romeo Radio Ad, Vox Media Company, first aired on Prof. G Podcast, 17 July 2023
- Stoa, recorded February 2023
- Faith and Meaning (video interview), Grace Farms Foundation, recorded January 2023
- Retirement Wisdom, recorded January 2023
- The Next Big Idea, recorded January 2023
- Lucretius Today, recorded January 2023 (two episodes)
- In Search of Wisdom, Perennial Leader Project, recorded December 2022

REVIEWS

- Review of *Plato's Pragmatism: Rethinking the Relationship Between Ethics and Epistemology*, Nicholas Baima and Tyler Paytas (Routledge: 2021), forthcoming in *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*.
- Review of *Death and Immortality in Ancient Philosophy*, A.G. Long, *Notre Dame Philosophical Review*, March 2020. *
- Review of *The Pleasures of Reason in Plato, Aristotle, and the Hellenistic Hedonists*, *Polis* 1: 168-171, 2017. *
- Review of *Plato's Charmides: Positive Elenchus in a 'Socratic' Dialogue*, Tom Tuozzo, *Notre Dame Philosophical Review*, March 2012. *
- Review of *Plato's Myths*, ed. by Catalin Partenie, *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, February 2010.

PRESENTATIONS (*invited)

TALKS

- 'Hellenistic Philosophy and Modern Sensibilities: Making Ancient 'Modern,' Ancient Philosophy Working Group, University of Colorado—Boulder, October 2023.*
- 'Laughing at Tyrants: Plato on What Makes Vice Amusing,' University of Colorado—Boulder, Philosophy Department Colloquium, October 2023. *
- 'How Much Social Justice Do We Need?' Bowdoin College, Philosophy Department Colloquium, September 2023.*
- 'Laughing at Tyrants: Plato on What Makes Vice Amusing,' University of Kansas, Philosophy Department Colloquium, April 2023.*
- Invited Symposium, 'Using Philosophy to Live Well: Ancient and Contemporary Perspectives,' APA-Central Division Annual Meeting, Denver, February 2023.*
- 'Living for Pleasure: Epicureanism as a Way of Life,' Philosophy as a Way of Life Workshop, Notre Dame University, August 2022.*
- 'Pleasure and the Plague: Epicurus on Pandemic Living,' Department of Philosophy Colloquium, Wake Forest University, October 2020. *
- 'Unnecessary Justice?' Approaches to Social Justice in Greek and Roman Philosophy, Wesleyan University, May 2019. *
- 'Aristotle on the Benefits of Death,' CNY Ancient Philosophy Working Group, Syracuse, NY, April 2019. *
- 'Is Wholeness Possible in Suffering,' panel with Dr. Ray Barfield (Duke), Veritas Forum, Wake Forest University, April 2019. *
- 'Aristotle on the Benefits of Death,' Texas Christian University Colloquium Series, October 2018. *
- 'Aristotle on the Beautiful Death,' Fourth Interdisciplinary Conference on the Heritage of Western Greece, Siracusa, Italy, June 2018.
- 'The Special Object of Dialectic in Plato's *Euthydemus* and *Charmides*, Platonic Dialectic—Inquiring Into the Nature of Things, Bergen, Norway, June 2018.
- 'Socratic Patriotism,' 40th Anniversary Steele Center Lecture, Hendrix College, April 2018.*

- 'The Ruling Art in Plato's *Euthydemus*,' UC-Riverside Ancient Philosophy Workshop, February 2018. *
- 'Socrates on Why We Shouldn't Study Philosophy,' Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy—Annual Meeting, October 2018.
- 'Is the First Protreptic of the *Euthydemus* Self-Defeating?,' American Philosophical Association Annual Meeting of Pacific Division, April 2017. *
- 'The Philosopher-Ruler in Plato's *Euthydemus*,' Stanford University, March 2017. *
- 'Praising and Loving the Unjust in Plato's *Protagoras*,' McGill University, September 2016.
- 'Seeing Oneself Rightly: Socrates on Self-Knowledge and Privileged Access,' Tahoe Ancient Philosophy Workshop, May 2016.*
- 'The Moral Psychology of Patriotism in the *Protagoras*,' Socrates: A Conference in Honor of Nicholas D. Smith, Lewis and Clark College, October 2014.*
- 'Are Philosophers Always Better Off Dead: *Phaedo* 61b-63c,' Special Session of Harvard Greek Reading Group, September 2014.*
- 'Legislating Immortality in Plato's *Republic*,' Proctor Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, Wellesley College, February 2014.*
- 'Plato on Grief as a Mental Disorder,' University of Tennessee Philosophy Departmental Colloquium, November 2013. *
- 'The Politics of Fearing Death in Plato's *Republic*,' Annual Meeting of Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Fordham University, October 2013.
- 'Plato on Grief as a Mental Disorder,' at Tahoe Ancient Philosophy Workshop, May 2013. *
- 'Plato on Grief as a Mental Disorder,' 36th Annual Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, University of Texas at Austin, March 2013.
- 'Grief and Non-Rational Desire in Plato's *Republic*,' NEH-funded Symposium on 'The Body and the Non-rational in Ancient Greek Thought,' Duquesne University, March 2013. *
- 'Self Defense, Corpses, and Immortality: Callicles' Fear of Death in the *Gorgias*,' Philosophy Departmental Colloquium, University of Wisconsin-Madison, January 2012.
- 'Plato on Grief as a Mental Disorder,' Ancient Philosophy Workshop, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, November 2011. *
- 'Fools, Malice, and Public Refutation in the *Philebus*,' Colloquium Presentation at APA Pacific Division Annual Meeting, April 2011.
- 'Self-Defense, Corpses, and Immortality: Callicles' Fear of Death in the *Gorgias*,' Duke University Philosophy Departmental Colloquium, April 2011.*
- 'Callicles' Fear of Death in the *Gorgias*,' Davidson College Philosophy Departmental Colloquium, February 2011.*
- 'Self-Defense, Corpses, and Immortality: Callicles' Fear of Death in the *Gorgias*,' 16th Annual Arizona Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy, February 2011.*
- 'Fools, Malice, and Public Refutation in the *Philebus*,' Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy Annual Meeting, Fordham University, October 2010.
- 'Epicurus and the Politics of the Fear of Death,' Colloquium Presentation at APA Central Division Annual Meeting, February 2009.

- 'Epicurus and the Politics of Fearing Death,' Boston University, University of Memphis, Colgate University, and Wake Forest University, January-February 2009.
- 'Prudence, Virtue, and the Fear of Death in Plato's *Apology*,' Annual Meeting of Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Fordham University, October 2008.
- 'Prudence and the Fear of Death in Plato's *Apology*,' University of Southern Illinois-Carbondale, March 2007.
- 'Anscombe on Practical Knowledge of What is Not the Case,' Philosophy Department Works-in-Progress, Washington University in St. Louis, August 2004.

COMMENTS

- Comments, 'Critic' for Author Meets Critics Session, *Opining Beauty Itself*, Naomi Reshotko, APA Central Division Meeting, New Orleans, February 2024. *
- Comments on 'Dialectic in the Cave,' Hugh Benson, West Coast Plato Workshop, Portland, OR, May 2018.
- Comments on 'Socratic Refutation and Moral Motivation,' Jacob Stump, APA Central Division Meeting, Chicago, IL, February 2018.
- Comments on 'Expertise and Education for Excellence,' Allison Glasscock, APA Eastern Division Meeting, Savannah, GA, January 2018.
- Comments on 'In (Partial) Defense of Epicurus on Pleasure,' J. Clerk Shaw, Knoxville, TN, March 2015.*
- Comments on 'Tyrannized Souls: Plato's Depiction of the Tyrannical Man,' APA Central Division Meeting, St. Louis, MO, February 2015.
- Comments on 'Malice and the Ridiculous as Self-Ignorance: A Dialectical Argument in *Philebus* 47d-50e,' Rebecca Bensen-Cain, APA Central Division Meeting, Chicago, IL, February 2014. *
- Comments on 'Cephalus and the Myth of Er: Why Do the Producers Value Justice?' Haewon Jeon, APA Central Division Meeting, New Orleans, LA, February 2013.*
- Comments on 'Intellectualism, Impassability, and Benevolence in Plato's Theology,' Keith McPartland, 17th Annual Arizona Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy, February 2012. *
- Comments on 'The Ally of Reason: Plato on Spirited Cognition and Desire,' Josh Wilburn, 34th Ancient Philosophy Workshop, March 2011.*
- Comments on '*Republic* V: What Our Cognitive Powers Cannot Be,' Ayca Boylu, APA Pacific Division Annual Meeting, March 2008.
- Comments on 'On Some Limits of Trying To Do One's Best,' Eric Wiland, Workshop for Ethics, Politics and Society, Washington University in St. Louis, October 2004.

TEACHING

- At Wake Forest University
 - Hellenistic Philosophy, Spring 2024, 2021, 2019, 2016
 - The Good Life: First Year Seminar, Fall 2023 (x2)

- Ancient Philosophy, Fall 2023, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2009
- Contemporary Moral Problems, Spring 2024, 2022 (x2), Fall 2021, Spring, 2021, Fall 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2019 (x2), Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017 (x2), Spring 2016, Fall 2015, Spring 2015, Fall 2014 (x2), Spring 2014, Spring 2013, Fall 2012 (x2), Spring 2011, Fall 2010 (x2), Spring 2010, Fall 2009
- Plato, Spring 2022, 2018, 2014, 2012, 2010.
- Aristotle, Spring 2015
- Basic Problems in Philosophy, Fall 2018
- Ethics, Spring 2013, 2011
- Death: First-Year Seminar, Fall 2013, Spring 2012
- Independent Study: Metaethics, Fall 2010
- Honors Advising
 - Stella Ross, 'Contracting Justice: Epicurus on the Death Penalty,' Spring 2025.
 - Jonathan Kaelber, 'The Midlife Crisis: a Meaningful Solution,' Spring 2025.
 - Ben Remis, 'Embracing the Ridiculous: Evaluating Plato's Account of Comedy,' Spring 2022.
 - Ally Deak, 'Epistemic Virtue and Pediatric Organ Donation,' Spring 2021.
 - Mary Glenn West, 'Dethroning Socrates: The Price of Socratic Examination,' Spring 2020.
 - Martin Tan, 'Suicide and Kant's Moral Theory of Humanity: Proposing an Alternative Definition,' Spring 2019.
 - Ben Campbell, 'Political Knowledge in Plato's *Statesman* and *Republic*,' Spring 2019.
 - Alex Stanley, 'True Pleasure in Plato's *Philebus*,' Spring 2015.
 - Robyn Lessens, 'Making a Myth from the Spindle of Necessity: Plato's Myth of Er,' Spring 2015.
 - Jonathan Zaikowski, 'The Trilemma and Infinitism: the Historical Trend,' Spring 2012.
 - Bo-Shan Xiang, 'Sub-personal Attitudes and Humean Metanormative Constructivism,' Spring 2011.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- Sam Gladding Artists & Authors Award, January 2023
- Humanities Institute Summer Writing Grant, Wake Forest University, Summer 2020
- Leadership and Character Institute Course Development Grant to develop course on Philosophy as a Way of Life, Wake Forest University, Summer 2020.
- Innovative Teaching Award, Teaching and Learning Collective, Spring 2019.
- Loeb Classical Foundation, 15K Award supporting Feminism and Classics Conference, planned for May 2020 at Wake Forest University; co-organizer with Ted Gellar-Goad (postponed due to COVID/held May 2022).
- Bitove Family Faculty Fellowship Award, 3-year term, July 2018.

- NEH Summer Seminar on Socrates, 5 weeks, Lewis & Clark College, June-July 2014.
- Writing Associates Program, (faculty development grant for writing across the disciplines), Spring 2014.
- Summer Research Grant from Wake Forest Center for Bioethics and Society, Project: 'Death, Ethics, and the Good Life,' Summer 2011.
- Dean's Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, May 2007.
- Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence, May 2006.
- Phi Beta Kappa, Junior Inductee
- President's Medal (for 'exemplifying the highest ideals of the College'), Hendrix College, May 2000.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

- Cicero AwayDay, Wake Forest University, April 2025, co-organized with John Oksanish, Classics.
- ClassicsBi-annual Feminism and Classics Conference, planned for May 2020 at Wake Forest University (postponed due to Covid, held May 2022); co-organizer.
- Workshop, 'Plato's *Euthydemus* and *Charmides*,' 10 participants, funded by Thomas Jack Lynch Philosophy Fund, November 10-12, 2017.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Journal and Press Referee: *American Journal of Philology*, *Ancient Philosophy*, *Apeiron*, *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Ergo*, *History of Philosophy Quarterly*, *Journal of Value Inquiry*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *Phoenix*, *Philosophical Papers*, *Polis*, SUNY Press, Polity Press, Oxford University Press.
- Vice-President, Hellenistic Philosophy Society, APA-recognized group for APA-Pacific (2016-present).
- International Grant Review: Swiss National Science Foundation (January 2024), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (February 2024), Fund for Scientific Research, Belgium (March 2024)
- Session Chair: Author Meets Critics for Mariska Leunissen's *From Natural Character to Moral Virtue in Aristotle*, APA-Eastern, New York (January 2019); Hellenistic Philosophy Society, APA-Pacific (April 2017); Symposium: Desire in Ancient Ethics, APA-Central, Chicago (February 2016) 46th Chapel Hill Colloquium in Philosophy (November 2012), Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy Annual Meeting (October 2012), The Character Project Research Workshop (June 2012), Wake Forest Philosophy of Time Conference (April 2010).

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Wake Forest Tenure and Promotion Committee, Jan 2024-Feb. 2025 (2-year term)
- After-Action Review Committee, Encampment Response, Jun-Aug 2024 (appointed)
- Executive Advisory Board, Wake Forest Humanities Institute, Fall 2023-present
- Internal Review Committee (Chair), External Review, Classics Department, AY 24-5.
- Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (URECA) Committee, July 2023-present

- Program in Leadership and Character Search Committee, May 2022
- Reynolds Leave Review Committee, November 2021
- Internal Review Committee, Department of Politics and International Affairs, AY 2021-22.
- Internal Review Committee, Writing Program, Spring 2021.
- Wake Forest Slavery, Race, and Memory Project Faculty Engagement Committee, 2020-21.
- College COVID Scenario Planning Working Group (Chair), May-August 2020.
- University Registrar Search Committee, April-July 2020.
- Board of Trustees, Academic Committee, Faculty Representative, Fall 2019-Spring 2021.
- Internal Review Committee, Counseling, Spring 2019.
- Committee for Academic Planning, Fall 2018-2022 (4-year term, Chair 2019-20).
- Philosophy Department Faculty Search Committee, Chair, Spring 2019.
- William Louis Poteat Scholarship Selection Committee, March 2018.
- Senior Orations Committee—January 2018 -February 2019 (2-year term).
- Research Advisory Committee, Fall 2017-Spring 2019.
- Committee on Information Technology, Fall 2017-Spring 2020 (3-year term)
- Teaching and Learning Committee, Fall 2017-Spring 2018 (1 year term, leave replacement)
- British Scholarships Mock Interview Committee, November 2013-present (annually)
- Faculty Adviser for Wake Forest University production of *Waiting for Godot*, January 2015.
- Thomas E. and Ruth Mullen Scholarship Interview Committee, November 2014.
- University Committee on Scholarships and Student Aid, 2014-15.
- Lower-Division Student Advising and Philosophy Major Advising, 2012-present.
- ‘Wake Forest Community Collaboration’ Panel, International Baccalaureate Open House, Office of Admissions, April 2014.
- Department of Philosophy Colloquium Committee, May 2013-present.
- Second Reader, Wake Forest Applicants for Carnegie Endowment Junior Fellowship, December 2012.
- ‘Stoics, Skeptics, and Epicureans,’ National Junior Classical League Annual Meeting, Wake Forest University, July 2012.
- Faculty Ethics Seminar, January-May 2012.
- Rhodes Scholar Mock Interview Committee, Fall 2011.
- Faculty-Student Interview for Joseph G. Gordon Scholarship Finalists, Spring 2011.
- Marshall Scholar Mock Interview Committee, Fall 2010.