

Matthew A. Leisinger

CONTACT

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Emmanuel College
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AREAS

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION Early modern philosophy
AREAS OF COMPETENCE Ethics, bioethics, moral psychology, personal identity, freedom

EMPLOYMENT

2018-2021 Research Fellow, Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge

EDUCATION

2012-2018 Yale University, PhD in Philosophy, with distinction
Dissertation: "John Locke and the Demand for Self-Determination"
Committee: Kenneth Winkler (chair), Stephen Darwall, Michael Della Rocca, Alison Simmons (external)

2016-2018 Yale Graduate Fellow in Applied Ethics, Yale Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics

Spring 2017 University of Toronto, Visitor

Fall 2016 Harvard University, Exchange Scholar

2008-2012 The University of Western Ontario (Canada), Honours BA in Philosophy
Awarded Governor General's Silver Medal

PUBLICATIONS

"Locke on Persons and Other Kinds of Substances," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* (forthcoming).
"Locke's Arguments against the Freedom to Will," *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 25:4 (2017), 642-662.

PRESENTATIONS

(* refereed)

PAPERS

*"The Role of Desire in Cudworth's Account of Human Agency", Agency in Early Modern Philosophy, University College Dublin, September 2018

*"Locke on the Motivation to Suspend Desire", Atlantic Canada Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Dalhousie University, July 2018

*"Locke's Gatekeeper", The 8th Margaret Dauler Wilson Philosophy Conference, SUNY Buffalo, June 2018

- *“Locke and the Possibility of Self-Control”, 2018 Annual Congress of the Canadian Philosophical Association, Université du Québec à Montréal, June 2018
- *“The Gatekeeper of the Will: On Locke’s Claim that Judgment and Desire Both Determine the Will”, 2017 Annual Congress of the Canadian Philosophical Association, May 2017
- “Locke on Persons, Kinds, and Composite Ideas”, History of Early Modern Philosophy Working Group, University of Toronto, March 2017
- *“Locke on Persons and Substance-Mode Composites”, Dutch Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy IV, University of Groningen, February 2017
- “Locke on Judgment, Desire, and Weakness of Will”, History of Philosophy Works in Progress, Harvard University, November 2016
- *“Cudworth on Personality”, Personal Identity in the History of Philosophy, University of Melbourne, August 2016
- *“Locke, Cudworth, and the Vulgar: What’s Wrong With Really Distinct Faculties?”, Atlantic Canada Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Dalhousie University, July 2016
- *“Cudworth on Reason and Moral Knowledge”, The 7th Margaret Dauler Wilson Philosophy Conference, Northern Arizona University, June 2016
- *“Cudworth on Reason and Moral Knowledge”, Scottish Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy VII, University of St. Andrews, May 2016
- “Cudworth on Reason and Moral Knowledge”, Harvard-Yale Graduate Workshop in the History of Philosophy, Harvard University, April 2016
- “Reconciling Freedom and Suspension: Locke on freedom of the will and ‘the source of all liberty’” Locke Workshop, Yale University, October 2014

COMMENTS

- On Elisabeth Thorsson, “Revisiting Locke’s Thinking Matter: A Third Way?”, 2018 Locke Workshop, Mansfield College, University of Oxford, July 2018
- On Ruth Boeker, Chapter 2 of *Locke on Persons and Personal Identity*, Book Workshop on *Locke on Persons and Personal Identity* by Ruth Boeker, Columbia University, March 2018
- On Julie Walsh, “Malebranche and the Tension Between Virtue and Goodwill”, The Society for Early Modern Philosophy at Yale (SEMPY), November 2015
- On Stephen Darwall, “Cudworth, Shaftesbury, and Leibniz”, The Society for Early Modern Philosophy at Yale (SEMPY), October 2015
- On Kenneth Winkler, “The Scope of Sensitive Knowledge”, The Society for Early Modern Philosophy at Yale (SEMPY), December 2014
- On Martha Bolton, “Locke on Substance and Identity: a Univocal and Internally Consistent Theory”, Locke Workshop, Yale University, October 2014

TEACHING

AS PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR

- Introduction to Bioethics, Yale University, Summer 2017
- Personhood and Personal Identity in Bioethics, Sherwin B. Nuland Summer Institute in Bioethics, Yale University, Summer 2017

AS TEACHING ASSISTANT

- Death, Shelly Kagan, Yale University, Spring 2018
- Introduction to Ethics, Shelly Kagan, Yale University, Fall 2017

Modern Philosophy from Descartes to Kant, Kenneth Winkler, Yale University, Spring 2016
Modern Philosophy from Descartes to Kant, Keith DeRose, Yale University, Spring 2015
Kant's Critique of Pure Reason, Paul Franks, Yale University Fall 2014

AS PHILOSOPHY WRITING TUTOR

Directed Studies (Ancient and Medieval Philosophy): Philosophy, Yale University, Fall 2015

AWARDS & HONOURS

2017-2018 Edgar H. Stone Fellowship, Yale University
2016-2017 Robert E. Darling Fellowship, Yale University
2016-2017 University Dissertation Fellowship, Yale University
2015-2016 Edgar H. Stone Fellowship, Yale University
2012-2016 SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
2012-2013 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (declined)
2012 Governor General's Silver Medal, The University of Western Ontario
(For attaining the highest graduating average over all disciplines in the University)
2012 Faculty of Arts & Humanities Gold Medal, The University of Western Ontario
(For attaining the highest graduating average over all disciplines in the Faculty)
2012 Gold Medal for the Honors Specialization in Philosophy, The University of Western Ontario
(For attaining the highest graduating average in the Honors Specialization in Philosophy)
2011 Stephanie Spinks Arts Scholarship, The University of Western Ontario
2011 Allison H. Johnson Scholarship in Philosophy, The University of Western Ontario
(For excellence in both philosophy and non-philosophy courses)
2010, 2009 Memorial Scholarship, The University of Western Ontario
2010 Edna Jeffrey Scholarship, The University of Western Ontario
(For the highest standing in the second year of an Honors Specialization in Philosophy)
2009 UWOFA Scholarship, The University of Western Ontario Faculty Association
2008-2012 Continuing Admissions Scholarship, The University of Western Ontario
2008 Canfor Corporation Major Open Scholarship
2008 School District 57 Dogwood District/Authority Award
2008 British Columbia Provincial Scholarship Award

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee for *Theoria* and *Philosophers' Imprint*

Co-organizer, The Society for Early Modern Philosophy at Yale (SEMPY), 2013-2018

Co-organizer, The Seventh Annual Conference of the Leibniz Society of North America, Yale University, October 2013

Co-organizer, 2012 Yale Leibniz Workshop, Yale University, October 2012

Decanal Selection Committee Member, Faculty of Arts & Humanities, The University of Western Ontario, June 2011-February 2012

LANGUAGES

English (native), French (reading proficiency), Latin (reading), German (reading)

REFERENCES

References available upon request