

Kyle Thompson, Ph.D.

Visiting Assistant Professor
Harvey Mudd College
301 Platt Blvd. | Claremont, CA 91711
kthompson@g.hmc.edu | 805.427.5458

EDUCATION

- 2019** Ph.D., Philosophy, Claremont Graduate University
Dissertation: “Ethics, X-Phi, and the Expanded Methodological Toolbox”
Committee: Eric Schwitzgebel, Brian Keeley, Phil Zuckerman
- 2011** M.A., Philosophy, Claremont Graduate University
- 2008** B.A., Psychology, Pepperdine University

AOS: Experimental Philosophy, Ethics

AOC: Philosophy of Religion and Theology, Epistemology, Philosophy of Science

MAIN TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Harvey Mudd College

Visiting Assistant Professor

- 2022** Empirical and Experimental Philosophy (Spring)
- 2022** Critical Inquiry: Free Will and Fiction (Spring, 2 sections)
- 2021** Introduction to Academic Writing (Fall, 2 sections, 16 and 15 students)

Adjunct

- 2021** Introduction to Academic Writing (Synchronous Online, Summer, 7 students)
- 2020** Introduction to Academic Writing (Synchronous Online, Summer, 8 students)
- 2020** Empirical and Experimental Philosophy (Part Synchronous Online, Spring, 16 students)
- 2020** Critical Inquiry: Humankind (Part Synchronous Online, Spring, 15 students)
- 2019** Introduction to Academic Writing (Co-taught, Fall, 2 sections, 16 and 15 students)
- 2018** Introduction to Academic Writing (Co-taught, Fall, 4 sections, 16 or 15 students)
- 2018** Critical Inquiry: Making Sense of Humanity (Spring, 18 students)
- 2017** Introduction to Academic Writing (Co-taught, Fall, 3 sections, 16 students each)
- 2016** Introduction to Academic Writing (Co-taught, Fall, 2 sections, 16 students each)

Pitzer College (*Adjunct*)

- 2021** Ethical Theory: Contemporary (Synchronous Online, Summer, 5 students)
- 2020** Empirical and Experimental Philosophy (Synchronous Online, Summer, 11 students)

Chaffey College (*Adjunct*)

- 2021** Critical Thinking (Asynchronous Online, Summer, 36 students)
- 2021** Critical Thinking (Asynchronous Online, Spring, Late start)
- 2020** Introduction to Philosophy (Asynchronous Online, Fall, 38 students)
- 2020** Critical Thinking (Part Asynchronous Online, Spring, 36 students)
- 2019** Introduction to Philosophy (Fall, 34 students)
- 2019** Critical Thinking (Spring, 34 students)
- 2018** Introduction to Philosophy (Fall, 33 students)*
- 2018** Critical Thinking (Spring, 19 students)
- 2017** Introduction to Philosophy (Spring, 24 students)*
- 2016** Introduction to Philosophy (Fall, **53 students**)
- 2016** Critical Thinking (Fall, 21 students)
- 2016** Introduction to Religion (Spring, 27 students)*
- 2016** Introduction to Philosophy (Spring, 28 students)

MiraCosta College (*Adjunct*)

- 2021** Introduction to Philosophy: Honors (Asynchronous Online, Fall, 25 students)
- 2021** Critical Thinking (Asynchronous Online, Summer, 2 sections, 32 and 28 students)
- 2021** Critical Thinking (Asynchronous Online, Spring, 35 students)
- 2021** Introduction to Philosophy (Asynchronous Online, Spring, 2 sections, 35 and 34 students)
- 2020** Critical Thinking (Asynchronous Online, Summer, 3 sections, 34 & 33 & 30 students)
- 2020** World Religions (Asynchronous Online, Spring, 27 students)*
- 2019** Introduction to Philosophy (Asynchronous Online, Fall, 25 students)**
- 2019** Contemporary Moral Problems (Asynchronous Online, Fall, 28 students)
- 2019** Contemporary Moral Problems (Asynchronous Online, Spring, 34 students)
- 2018** World Religions (Spring, 28 students)
- 2017** World Religions (Fall, 26 students)
- 2017** Introduction to Philosophy (Summer, 22 students)
- 2017** World Religions (Spring, 2 sections, 28 and 27 students)
- 2016** Introduction to Philosophy (Asynchronous Online, Fall, 27 students)
- 2016** Introduction to Philosophy (Spring, 33 students)
- 2016** Contemporary Moral Problems (Spring, 33 students)

* Served as advisor for a student's honors program project

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2021 – 2022 Principal Investigator

- In process of developing and running qualitative study on how non-philosophers think about thought experiments centered on free will and moral responsibility
- Currently finalizing study materials for IRB approval

2017 – 2019 Principal Investigator

- Experiment for dissertation: “Ethics, X-Phi, and the Expanded Methodological Toolbox”
- Constructed and completed experimental study that partially re-created and expanded on study by Vladimir Chituc, Paul Henne, Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, and Felipe De Brigard
- Administered surveys and conducted interviews with 40 participants on issues in moral philosophy relating to “ought implies can”
- Ran statistical analyses of quantitative data; transcribed and analyzed qualitative data from interviews and think aloud sessions, which were performed as participants completed surveys
- Sought to learn how people think about moral concepts such as obligation and blame

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Agency and Intentions in Language 2 (virtual)

2021 – 2022 Principal Organizer

- Developed website, Call for Papers, and conference registry for upcoming interdisciplinary workshop for philosophers, linguists, and psychologists (<https://ail-workshop.github.io/AIL2-Workshop/>)
- Invited speakers for presentation at workshop, helped create an organizing committee, and promoted event extensively to folks in multiple disciplines
- Will coordinate with organizing committee to read submissions, determine presenters, and develop schedule during December of 2021
- Will host the workshop on Zoom via Harvey Mudd College, from January 12 to 14 of 2022

PUBLICATIONS

Academic Journals, Chapters, and Book Sections

- Forthcoming** “Are Atheists Immoral?” & “Where Do Atheists Get their Values?”
Book sections in *Atheism in Five Minutes*, Equinox Publishing, edited by Teemu Taira
- 2020** “Secular Living as a Context for Moral Development”
Chapter in *The Oxford Handbook of Moral Development: An Interdisciplinary Perspective*, OUP, edited by Lene Jensen, Phil Zuckerman, principal author, and Kyle Thompson, co-author
- 2013** “Moore’s Paradox, Direct Doxastic Voluntarism, and Atheist Distrust”
LUX: A Journal of Transdisciplinary Writing and Research from Claremont Graduate University, vol. 2, no. 1

2012 “Sam Harris’ ‘Lying’”
Claremont Journal of Religion, vol. 1, no. 1

Academic Blogs

2016 “Terror Management Theory and Anti-Atheist Prejudice in America”
Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network, NSRN Blog

2015 “Sam Harris’ ‘Waking Up’ Spotlights the Possibility of Secular Spirituality,” *Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network*, NSRN Blog

2014 “Investigating the Social Cost of Atheism in the US”
Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network, NSRN Blog

Popular Magazines

2014 “Generation Empathy: Lysa Heslov Empowers At-Risk Youth to Become Global Citizens,” *Blindfold Magazine*, issue entitled “Rebellion”

2013 “Self-Denial, Self-Medication and Self-Help: Lucinda Bassett Navigates the Age of Anxiety,” *Blindfold Magazine*, issue entitled “Help”

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2021 “Intentional Inaction, Blame, and Obligation: A Case Study of ‘Ought Implies Can’ Using Qualitative Methods”
Agency and Intentions in Language (workshop), Georg-August University of Göttingen, Live on Zoom (January 14)

2020 (canceled due to pandemic)

“Ethics, X-Phi, and the Expanded Methodological Toolbox: How the Think Aloud Method and Interview Reveal People’s Judgments on Issues in Ethics and Beyond”
Presentation as part of the Experimental Philosophy Society within the APA Pacific Division Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA (April 10)

2014 “How Christian Atheists Can Shed Light on Anti-Atheist Prejudice in America”
3rd International Conference for the Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network at Pitzer College, Claremont, CA (November 20)

2012 “Moore’s Paradox, Direct Doxastic Voluntarism, and Atheist Distrust”
13th Claremont Graduate University Student Research Conference and Art Exhibition, Claremont, CA (June 27)

OTHER SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 2021** “Conspiracy Theories and the Ethics of Belief: A Conversation with Dr. Ryan Falcioni and Dr. Kyle Thompson”
Event for Department of Philosophy at Chaffey College,
Live on Zoom (April 22)
- 2021** “When Interviews Clarify: A Case Study in Moral Obligation”
Presented in Carlin Crisanti’s “Research Methods” class at Cal Poly
Pomona,
Live on Zoom (March 10)
- 2020** “God, Atheism, and Morality: A Conversation with Dr. Ryan Falcioni and Dr. Kyle Thompson”
Event for Department of Philosophy at Chaffey College,
Live on Zoom (November 19)
- 2019** “Empirical and Experimental Philosophy”
The Chaffey College Philosophy Club,
Rancho Cucamonga, CA (October 17)
- 2019** “Experimental Philosophy: A Brief Introduction”
The Chaffey College Philosophy Club,
Rancho Cucamonga, CA (May 8)
- 2017** “Secular Morality (in America): The Challenges and Successes”
Presented as part of student group in Kendall Cotton Bronk’s psychology
course at Claremont Graduate University,
Claremont, CA (November 30)
- 2017** “Experimental Philosophy: A Brief Introduction”
The Chaffey College Philosophy Club,
Rancho Cucamonga, CA (October 17)
- 2017** “Free Will: A Panel Discussion on the Nature of Choice”
Event by Chaffey College Philosophy Club,
Rancho Cucamonga, CA (September 20)
- 2016** “*Can Science Study Prayer and Other Religious Phenomena?*”
The Chaffey College Philosophy Club,
Rancho Cucamonga, CA (April 5)
- 2015** “Believing the Impossible: The Law of Non-contradiction and Belief”
The Society for Philosophy and Religion at Claremont,
Claremont, CA (September 10)

- 2015** “Anti-Atheist Prejudice in the Land of the Free”
Chaffey College’s The Club of Secular Understanding
Rancho Cucamonga, CA (October 20)
- 2014** “What is Religion?”
Led panel discussion at The Society for Philosophy and Religion
at Claremont Lecture Series, Claremont, CA (April 6)
- 2012** “Discussion on Theism and Naturalism”
The Society for Philosophy and Religion at Claremont
Claremont, CA (November 7)

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Claremont Journal of Religion

2012 – 2016 Editor-in-Chief

- Oversaw the creation and completion of the 2014 issues “Fundamentalism, Extremism, and Dogmatism” and “Secularism and Religion”
- Selected and managed staff, edited articles, earned grant funding, and publicized the journal
- Edited, compiled, and finalized the publication of a print version of the “Best of the CJR 2012-2014”; for more information see: <http://www.amazon.com/Claremont-Journal-Religion-Best-2012-2014/dp/1500486345>

2013 – 2016 Grant Writer

- Earned two grants for the Claremont Journal of Religion, including a five-hundred-dollar award from the Albert B. Friedman Grant

2012 – 2013 Editor

- Edited for three issues of the journal and wrote the editor’s introduction to each; edited over ten academic articles and book reviews, designed and implemented editing rubric

2015 Assistant for Book Project

- *The Nonreligious: Understanding Secular People and Societies*, OUP (2016)
- Aided with proofreading, editing and formatting references for book by Phil Zuckerman, Frank Pasquale, and Luke Galen

OTHER TEACHING AND TUTOR EXPERIENCE

Harvey Mudd College

- 2019** Tutor, Critical Inquiry: Minimalism (Bill Alves, Spring)
Tutor, Critical Inquiry: English with an Accent (Isabel Balseiro, Spring)
Tutor, Critical Inquiry: Global Poverty and Inequality (Rebecca Johannsen, Spring)
- 2017** Tutor, Critical Inquiry: Socratic Dialogues (Darryl Wright, Spring)
Tutor, Critical Inquiry: I Love L.A. (Hal Barron, Spring)
Tutor, Critical Inquiry: English with an Accent (Isabel Balseiro, Spring)
Tutor, Critical Inquiry: I'm right. You're wrong. (Debra Mashek, Spring)
Tutor, Critical Inquiry: Science, Gender, Sex (Vivien Hamilton, Spring)
- 2016** Tutor, Critical Inquiry: Socratic Dialogues (Darryl Wright, Spring)
Tutor, Critical Inquiry: Creative Disruption (David Wirthlin, Spring, 2 sections)

Claremont Graduate University

- 2015** Teaching Assistant, Atheism and Secularity (Phil Zuckerman, Spring)
2014 Teaching Assistant, Sociology of Religion (Phil Zuckerman, Spring)

ACI Institute

- 2012 – 2015** Instructor, various SAT preparation classes

OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2020** Workshop on Giving and Getting Peer Feedback
Workshop leader. Presented on strategies for providing and receiving peer feedback to students conducting research in various scientific disciplines at Harvey Mudd College.
Live on Zoom (July 21)
- 2019** Workshop on Giving and Getting Peer Feedback
Workshop leader. Presented on strategies for providing and receiving peer feedback to students conducting research in various scientific disciplines at Harvey Mudd College. Claremont, CA (July 23)
- 2019** Course Outline Revision Process
Contributor. Provided analysis and suggested changes for outline of philosophy of religion course at MiraCosta College. Corresponded with faculty in Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. (July 2019)

- 2016** Claremont Graduate University Re-Orientation
Panelist. Spoke as part of the panel “Preparing for Qualls.”
Claremont, CA (February 5)
- 2014** SPARC Southern California Regional Student Conference 2014
Volunteer. Moderated lectures, set up for conference, and directed
participants as needed. Claremont, CA (April 5)
- 2013** Interview an Atheist at Church Day
Interviewee. Interviewed at United Church of the Valley as atheist who
seeks to bring about better understanding between atheists and religious
persons. Murrieta, CA (May 5)

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Fernandez Prize Stipend (Claremont Graduate University)
- Who’s Who in America’s Colleges and Universities (Pepperdine University)
- Magna Cum Laude graduate (Pepperdine University)
- Dean’s List (Pepperdine University)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- American Philosophical Association (APA)
- Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP)
- The Experimental Philosophy group (via APA)

DIVERSITY AND EQUITY TRAINING

I have participated in a variety of events, workshops, and online modules on diversity, equity, and related goals. These programs have addressed a range of topics, including serving as an ally to LGBT+ folks, promoting anti-racism, working with student veterans, assisting students who might benefit from mental health counseling, and more. Below is a non-exhaustive list of some workshops and events I have recently participated in:

- American Philosophical Association Member Webinar: “Anti-Racist Pedagogy in Philosophy” (1/26/2021, Online)
- Harvey Mudd College Training, via Everfi: “Harassment & Discrimination Prevention” (12/07/2019, Online)
- Harvey Mudd College’s Office of Institutional Diversity: “Common Threads - Disability Talk” (10/08/2019)
- Claremont Colleges Center for Teaching and Learning: “Responding to Microaggressions in the Classroom” (9/15/2017)

REFERENCES

Dr. Eric Schwitzgebel
Professor of Philosophy
UC Riverside
951.827.4288
eric.schwitzgebel@ucr.edu

Dr. Brian Keeley
Professor of Philosophy
Pitzer College
909.607.4235
brian_keeley@pitzer.edu

Dr. Phil Zuckerman
Professor of Sociology & Secular Studies
Pitzer College
909.607.4495
phil_zuckerman@pitzer.edu

Dr. Darryl Wright
Professor of Philosophy
Harvey Mudd College
909.607.4478
darryl_wright@hmc.edu

Dr. Jeffrey Murico
Instructor, Philosophy & Rel. Studies
MiraCosta College
760.757.2121 x6551
jmurico@miracosta.edu

Dr. Isabel Balseiro
Professor of Comparative Literature
Harvey Mudd College
909.607.2661
isabel_balseiro@hmc.edu