

CURRICULUM VITAE: JOHN M. DEPOE

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Iowa (*expected by Summer 2010*)

Dissertation: "The Knowledge Argument: A Defense of the Knowledge Argument and Investigation of Related Topics" Director: Richard Fumerton

M.A. Philosophy, Western Michigan University (2006)

M.A. Religion, Hardin-Simmons University (2004)

Thesis: "Human Freedom and Divine Foreknowledge: An Analysis of Selected Solutions"

B.A. Philosophy and Theology, Hardin-Simmons University (2002)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Epistemology, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Religion

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

History of Modern Philosophy, Philosophy of Language, Logic

PUBLICATIONS

ARTICLES (All articles are peer-reviewed unless indicated otherwise)

"Defeating the Self-Defeat Argument for Phenomenal Conservatism," *Philosophical Studies*, forthcoming.

"Williamson on the Evidence for Skepticism," *Southwest Philosophical Studies*, forthcoming.

"The Significance of Religious Disagreement," in *Taking Christian Moral Thought Seriously: The Legitimacy of Christian Thought in the Marketplace of Ideas*, edited by Jeremy Evans (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Academic, forthcoming). [Invited contribution.]

"Vindicating a Bayesian Approach to Confirming Miracles: A Response to Jordan Howard Sobel's Reading of Hume," *Philosophia Christi* 10, no. 1 (2008): 229-38.

"In Defense of Classical Foundationalism: A Critical Evaluation of Plantinga's Argument that Classical Foundationalism is Self-Refuting," *The South African Journal of Philosophy* 26, no. 3 (2007): 245-51.

"Theism, Atheism, and the Metaphysics of Free Will," *Southwest Philosophical Studies* 27 (2005): 36-44.

BOOK REVIEWS

Double book review (with James McGlothlin) of Angus Menuge's *Agents Under Fire* (Rowman and Littlefield 2004) and Victor Reppert's *C. S. Lewis' Dangerous Idea* (InterVarsity 2003) in *Faith and Philosophy* 26, no. 3 (2009): 339-346.

Double book review of Daniel Dennett's *Breaking the Spell* (Viking 2006) and Richard Dawkins's *The God Delusion* (Houghton Mifflin 2006) in *Review and Expositor* 104, no. 4 (2007): 819-21.

Review of Allan Gibbard's *Thinking How to Live* (Harvard University Press 2003) in *Philosophia Christi* 7, no. 1 (2005): 219-221.

ACADEMIC AWARDS

GRADUATE AWARDS

SEASHORE BALLARD DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP (2009-2010) – a competitive university-wide fellowship awarded by the university’s graduate college. Competition is open to any graduate student in the University of Iowa that is intending to finish his or her dissertation in the next school year is eligible.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS FELLOWSHIP (Summer 2008) – a merit based and department-wide fellowship awarded by the University of Iowa’s philosophy department to assist in preparing for comprehensive exams.

THE HEMPHILL GRADUATE AWARD (2003) – the Graduate School awards one graduate student from the entire university who has excelled in academic studies, possesses character and behavior consistent with the University’s purpose, and exhibits potential for significant contribution to his/her chosen field.

THE LOGSDON SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (2003) – the faculty of the Logsdon School of Theology awards one graduate student from their department who best reflects the ideals of the Logsdon School of Theology, including excellence in scholarship.

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

GORDON CLINARD THEOLOGY AWARD (2001-2002) – awarded to two undergraduates in the theology department once a year for exemplary academic and personal conduct.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP (1998-2002)

WALTON PHILOSOPHY SCHOLARSHIP (2000-2002)

DEAN’S SCHOLARSHIP (1998-2002)

SLAUGHTER THEOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP
(1999-2000)

STEAKLEY THEOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP (2000-2002)

HURST PHILOSOPHY SCHOLARSHIP
(1999-2002)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

NON-GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCES

“Against Particularism” (with Ian MacMillan) – the Iowa Philosophical Society, November 14, 2009.

“Hume’s Sensible Knave Problem” – the New Mexico/ West Texas Philosophical Society, March 27-29, 2009.

“How to Confirm a Miracle: A Bayesian Approach” – the American Philosophical Association Central Division meeting 2007.

“Williamson on the Evidence for Skepticism” – the New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society, March 30-31, 2007.

“In Defense of Classical Foundationalism: A Critical Evaluation of Plantinga's Argument that Classical Foundationalism is Self-Refuting” – the Midwest Regional Evangelical Philosophical Society, March 16-17, 2007.

“Conceivability Arguments Against Materialism” – the Iowa Philosophical Society, September 23, 2006.

“Evidentialism, Reformed Epistemology, and the Holy Spirit” – the Midwest Regional Society of Christian Philosophers meeting, April 20-22, 2006; and the Midwest Regional Evangelical Philosophical Society, March 24-25, 2006.

“An Argument against the Mind Being a Physical Mechanism” – Western Michigan University’s philosophy department’s colloquium, October 21, 2005.

“A Bayesian Analysis of the Cumulative Effects of the Independent Eyewitness Testimony for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ” – the Midwest Regional Society of Christian Philosophers meeting, April 7-9, 2005.

“Why Christians Should not be Compatibilists: A Response to Baker” – the annual meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, November 17-19, 2004.

“Theism, Atheism, and the Metaphysics of Free Will” – the New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society, March 26-28, 2004.

“How the Tensed and Tenseless Theories of Time Matter for Christology” – the annual meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, November 21, 2003.

“Anselm: Life and Contributions” – the New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society, April 5-7, 2002.

GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCES

“Berkeley’s Continuity Argument for God’s Existence” – the University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society’s 2008 Fall conference, November 1, 2008.

“How to Read Plato’s Self-Refutation Argument against Protagoras” – the University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society’s 2007 Fall conference, November 3, 2007.

“Reid’s Refutation of Hume’s Moral Non-Cognitivism” – the University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society’s 2006 Fall conference, December 2, 2006.

“In Defense of the ‘Fatal Dilemma’ Against Moderate Foundationalism” – the third annual Miami University Graduate Student Conference in Epistemology, January 20-21, 2006.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (For more details, see <http://www.johndepoe.com/teaching>)

Introduction to Philosophy: 7 Courses as Instructor, 2 as Teaching Assistant

Principles of Reasoning (Logic): 3 Courses as Instructor

Critical Reasoning: 1 Course as Instructor, 2 as Teaching Assistant

University of Iowa, Department of Philosophy

Semester/ Year	Course Title	Role	Sections	Enrollment
Spring 2009	Introduction to Philosophy	Instructor	1	39
Fall 2008	Introduction to Philosophy	Instructor	1	37
Spring 2008	Introduction to Philosophy	Instructor	1	32
Fall 2007	Introduction to Philosophy	Instructor	1	34
Spring 2007	Principles of Reasoning	Instructor	2	33 + 31
Fall 2006	Principles of Reasoning	Instructor	1	23

Western Michigan University, Department of Philosophy

Semester/ Year	Course Title	Role	Sections	Enrollment
Spring 2006	Introduction to Philosophy	Instructor	1	29
Fall 2005	Introduction to Philosophy	Instructor	2	25 + 25
Summer 2005	Critical Thinking	Instructor	1	25
Spring 2005	Introduction to Philosophy	Assistant	2	25* + 25*
Fall 2004	Critical Thinking	Assistant	2	25* + 25*

(* Indicates number is estimate)

DISSERTATION PRÉCIS

“The Knowledge Argument: A Defense of the Knowledge Argument and Investigation of Related Topics”

Dissertation Committee: Richard Fumerton (director), David Cunning, Evan Fales, and Ali Hasan.

The Knowledge Argument is probably best known from Frank Jackson’s well-known thought experiment that involves Mary, a scientist who knows all the physical truths and their deductive implications, but who (for whatever reasons) has never experienced colors besides black-and-white. Mary, then, sees color for the first time, which intuitively underwrites the claim that Mary learns something new – what it’s like to see red. From this many have concluded that physicalism is false. Of course, this thought experiment has not been the last word on the subject. My dissertation defends the Knowledge Argument by defending two key premises. The first is the Physical Knowledge Intuition (PKI), which states that if complete possession of all knowledge of physical truths isn’t sufficient to provide all propositional knowledge of the actual world, then physicalism is false. I take the PKI to be a logical corollary to the concept of physicalism, which I defend in chapter 1. In chapter 2, I argue for the second premise, the knowledge intuition (KI), which states that complete possession of all knowledge of physical truths isn’t sufficient to provide all propositional knowledge of the actual world, namely knowledge of the subjective character of conscious experience. Here I defend a foundationalist account of knowledge that is based on direct acquaintance to justify the KI. The rest of the project focuses on responding to physicalist objections, which make up the bulk of the literature on the Knowledge Argument. Chapter 3 responds to physicalist objections that deny Mary learns anything new from her first experience of color. The fourth chapter responds to physicalists who accept that Mary would come to learn something new, but deny that Mary’s knowledge is propositional or factual knowledge. In chapter 5, I respond to physicalists who accept that Mary comes to know a new fact, but who deny that this new factual knowledge falsifies physicalism. The sixth chapter addresses and rebuts the concern that the Knowledge Argument can be applied against dualism just as easily as the argument applies to physicalism. In the final chapter, I consider how the concepts and philosophical issues of the Knowledge Argument apply to a growing literature on the problem of divine omniscience.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

President, University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society (2007-2008, 2008-2009)

Conference Organizer and Session Chair – the University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society’s 2009 Spring conference, April 10-11, 2009.

Conference Organizer – the University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society’s 2008 Fall conference, November 1, 2008.

Conference Organizer and Session Chair – University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society’s 4th Annual Graduate Student Conference, March 28-29, 2008.

Commentator on Lijun Yuan’s “Hume’s Principle of Sympathy” – the New Mexico/ West Texas Philosophical Society meeting, March 27-29, 2009.

Conference Organizer – the University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society’s 2007 Fall conference, November 3, 2007.

Session Chair – the Central States Philosophical Society’s 2007 annual meeting, October 5-6, 2007.

Commentator on Blake Roeber’s “Does the Theist Have an Epistemic Advantage over the Atheist?” – the University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society’s 3rd Annual Graduate Student Conference, April 27-28, 2007.

Session Chair and Participant at the first annual University of Missouri Philosophy of Religion Conference, January 27-28, 2006.

Commentator on John Churchill's "Accidental Necessity and Interventionist Theism" - the University of Texas Graduate Conference, April 3-4, 2003; theme: Time, Tense, and Change.

REFERENCES

Dr. Richard Fumerton, F. Wendell Miller Professor of Philosophy, University of Iowa

Dr. David Cuning, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Iowa

Dr. Evan Fales, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Iowa

Dr. Ali Hasan, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Iowa

Dr. Timothy McGrew, Professor of Philosophy, Western Michigan University

Dr. Dan Stiver, Professor of Theology, Logsdon Seminary

GRADUATE COURSES IN PHILOSOPHY AND RELATED FIELDS (* Indicates class audited)

METAPHYSICS & EPISTEMOLOGY

*Epistemology Survey, Ali Hasan (Fall 2009)
Direct Realism Seminar, Ali Hasan (Spring 2009)
*Metaphysics, Carrie Figdor (Spring 2009)
Knowledge Argument Seminar, Richard Fumerton (Fall 2008)
Epistemology Seminar (on M. Bergmann’s book), Richard Fumerton (Spring 2008)
Philosophy of Mind Seminar, Carrie Figdor (Fall 2007)
Epistemology Seminar (on Williamson’s book), Richard Fumerton (Fall 2006)
Action and Perception, Arthur Falk (Spring 2006)
Naming and Reference, Marc Alspector-Kelly (Spring 2006)
Metaphysics, John Dilworth (Fall 2005)
Philosophy of Language and Time, Quentin Smith (Spring 2005)
Philosophy of Mind, John Dilworth (Spring 2005)
Epistemology, Timothy McGrew (Fall 2004)
Virtue Epistemology, Robert Roberts and W. Jay Wood (Fall 2002)

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE/LOGIC

*Modal Logic, Greg Landini (Fall 2008)
Probability and Confirmation, Evan Fales (Fall 2007)
Philosophy of Science, Evan Fales (Spring 2007)
Philosophy of Probability, Timothy McGrew (Fall 2005)
*Philosophy of Logic, Timothy McGrew (Spring 2005)
Philosophy of Science, James Marcum (Spring 2003)

HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

Early Modern Ethics – Spinoza & Hume, David Cuning (Spring 2008)
Hume & Berkeley, David Cuning (Fall 2007)
Plato, James Duerlinger (Spring 2007)
Frege and Russell, Greg Landini (Spring 2007)
René Descartes, David Cuning (Fall 2006)
Hume, Reid, and Smith, Michael Pritchard (Summer 2005)
History of Analytic Philosophy, C. Stephen Evans (Spring 2003)
Hegel and His Critics, Carl Vaught (Spring 2003)
Kierkegaard, C. Stephen Evans (Fall 2002)

PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

*Philosophy of Religion Seminar, Evan Fales (Spring 2009)
*Philosophy of Religion, Evan Fales (Fall 2008)
Christian Philosophy, Dan Stiver (Spring 2004)
Independent Study: God, Freedom, and Foreknowledge, Dan Stiver (Summer 2003)
Philosophy of Religion, Carl Vaught (Fall 2002)

VALUE THEORY

Analytic Ethics, Diane Jeske (Fall 2006)
Ethical Theory, Joseph Ellin (Fall 2005)