

# DREW CHASTAIN

Visiting Assistant Professor  
Department of Philosophy  
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## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Philosophy, 2003  
Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana  
Dissertation: "Interpreting Metaphor" (Award of Degree: August 13, 2003;  
Committee: Forbes, Brower, Lodge)
- M.A. Philosophy, 1999  
Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana
- B.A. Philosophy, with minor in Anthropology, 1996  
University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida  
Thesis: "A Challenge for Instrumental Theories of Human Ends"

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

**Loyola University**, New Orleans, Louisiana (2011-present), Visiting Assistant Professor

**It Is What It Is Films**, New Orleans, Louisiana (2006-2011), Director, Writer, Video Editor

**Xavier University**, New Orleans, Louisiana (2007-2010), Assistant Professor

**Tulane University**, New Orleans, Louisiana (2004-2007), Visiting Assistant Professor, Adjunct

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Spirituality, Meaning in Life, Applied Ethics, Value Theory

## AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Biomedical Ethics  
Epistemology  
Philosophy of Language  
Cognitive Science

Race & Identity Politics  
History of Modern Philosophy  
Continental Philosophy  
Analytic Philosophy

Aesthetics  
Political Philosophy  
Metaphysics  
Ancient Philosophy

### **FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED)**

"Sacredness" (co-authored with Michael Hauskeller). *The Big Questions*. Ed. Michael Hauskeller.

"Meaning" (co-authored with Michael Hauskeller). *The Big Questions*. Ed. Michael Hauskeller.

### **PUBLICATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED)**

2019. "Can Life be Meaningful without Free Will?" *Philosophia*. 47 (4). 1069-1086.

2018. "Liberating Spirit from Santayana's Spectatorial Spirituality." *Overheard in Seville: Bulletin of the Santayana Society*. No. 36. Fall. 99-114.

2018. "Becoming a Hollow Bone: Lakota Respect for the Sacred." *The Philosophy of Spirituality: Analytic, Continental and Multicultural Approaches to a New Field of Philosophy*. Eds. Rod Nicholls & Heather Salazar. Netherlands: Brill | Rodopi. 164-188.

2017. "Gifts Without Givers: Secular Spirituality and Metaphorical Cognition." *Sophia*. 56 (4): 631-647.

### **PUBLISHED BOOK REVIEWS**

2018. "Leaving Well Enough Alone: A Review of Michael Hauskeller's *Better Humans?*, *Sex and the Posthuman Condition*, and *Mythologies of Transhumanism*." *Ethical Perspectives*. 25 (4). 795-806. (6,000 word book review, with author's reply)

2014. *Money for Everyone: Why We Need a Citizen's Income*. *Basic Income Studies*. 9 (1-2): 137-140.

### **IN PREPARATION**

"Deep Personal Meaning: A Subjective Approach to Meaning in Life" (8,000 word draft to be submitted to top tier journals)

“The Normativity of Spiritual Experience” (3,000 word paper accepted to the Religious Experience and Description Conference in early October 2019)

“Sisko’s Conversion Experience: Religion and Faith on *Deep Space Nine*” (proposal submitted to a philosophy anthology on the series *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*)

### **UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS**

2019 “The Normativity of Spiritual Experience”, The Religious Experience & Description Conference, Valparaiso, IN, Oct 10-12

2020 Presentation TBD, Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Memphis, TN, Mar 20-21

### **PREVIOUS PRESENTATIONS**

2019 “The Nonreligious Normativity of the Sacred”, Philosophy, Politics, Anthropology and Allied Disciplines, Amsterdam, Netherlands, May 15-17

2019 “The Sacred & Morality: Human Life & the Earth,” March: Midsouth Philosophy Conference (pending acceptance of submission), Memphis, TN

2018 “This Magic Moment: The Experiential Source of Spiritual Normativity.” 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Alabama Philosophical Society, Pensacola, FL, Sep 28-29

2018 “Spiritual Reasons as Public Reasons,” Anthrosophia Conference; & Philosophy, Politics & Economics Society, both conferences in New Orleans, LA, March

2018 “Liberating Santayana’s Spirit: Naturalized Spirituality without Santayana’s Intellectualism,” Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 2018 APA Eastern Division Meeting, Savannah, GA, January 3

2017 “Repetition, Boredom and the Sacred,” Alabama Philosophical Society, Pensacola, FL, September 29-30

2017 “Becoming a Hollow Bone: How Lakota Respect for the Sacred Fosters Morality and Meaning in Life,” Anthrosophia, Loyola University, New Orleans, LA, March 8-11

2017 “The Meaningfulness of Attachment,” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, March 31–April 1.

2016 “Can Trivial or Immoral Activities Make Life More Meaningful?: What’s Missing in Susan Wolf’s Approach to Life Meaning,” Long Island Philosophical

Society, Molloy College, Rockville Centre, NY, April 9; and Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, February 19-20

2015 "Internal Meaning and Social Theory," Articulating Political Philosophy and Anthropological Theory, Method, and Evidence, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, December

2015 "Gifts without Givers: Metaphorical Gift Language and Secular Spirituality," Mississippi Philosophical Association, Millsaps College, Jackson, MS, March; and Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, March

2008 "Using a Course Portfolio to Measure and Improve Student Learning," Defining and Promoting Student Success Conference, hosted by the Faculty Resource Network, San Francisco, November, co-presented with Dr. Paul Schafer

2006 "'Thought Work' as Philosophical Practice in the Classroom," The 8th International Conference of Philosophical Practice, Seville, Spain, April

2004 "The New Orleans Lyceum," International Conference of Philosophical Practice, Copenhagen, Denmark, August, co-presented with David O'Donaghue, Director of The Lyceum

### **COMMENTARY**

2019 Reply to Daniel Miller's "Can Morally Ignorant Agents Care Enough?," Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, March

2017 Reply to Jack Kwong's "What is Hope?," Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, March-April

2016 Reply to Douglas Henry's "The Real Euthyphro Problem," Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, February

2015 Reply to Heather Wilburn's "Experience and Contradiction: Thinking the Other of Damaged Life," Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, March

### **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR PARTICIPATION**

2018 "The Nature of Spirituality: Santayana and Beyond," George Santayana Society, Online Seminar, Feb 16

### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

2019 Co-organizer of the 2019 Philosophy, Politics & Anthropology Conference, Amsterdam

2019 Organized Philosophy Department Research Group, Loyola University, 2015-present

2018 Co-organizer of the 2018 Anthrosophia Conference, New Orleans, LA

2017 Co-organizer of the 2018 Anthrosophia Conference, New Orleans, LA

2016 A member of the steering committee for the 2017 Anthrosophia Conference, New Orleans, LA

### **GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**

2019 Loyola Carter Fellowship, "Morality & the Sacred: Human Life & the Earth," 2018-2019, \$1K awarded for conference travel

2010 Faculty Communities of Teaching Scholars (FaCTS) grant funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (for infusion of internationalization themes and service-learning in Health Ethics), 2009-2010

### **NEWLY DEVELOPED COURSES**

2019 (Fall) Indigenous Philosophy

2018 (Fall) The Meaning of Life

2017 (Fall) Aesthetics

2017 (Spr) The Self & the Sacred

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

**Loyola University**, New Orleans, Louisiana (2011-present)

Indigenous Philosophy, 2 sections (2019)

The Meaning of Life, 2 sections (2018)

Aesthetics, 2 sections (2017)

Self & the Sacred, 2 sections (2017)

Making Moral Decisions, 21 sections (2012–2016, 2018, 2019)

Philosophy of the Human Person, 24 sections (2013–2019)

Introduction to Philosophy, 4 sections (2011, 2012, 2013)

**Xavier University**, New Orleans, Louisiana (2007-2010)

Health Ethics, 19 sections (2007, 2008, 2010)

Problems in Philosophy, 7 sections (2007, 2008, 2010)

African-American Philosophy, 1 section (2009)

Great Books: Philosophy of Spirituality, 1 section (2009)

**Tulane University**, New Orleans, Louisiana (2004-2007)

Modern Philosophy, 4 sections (2004, 2005)  
Philosophies of Self, 7 sections (1999, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007)  
Introduction to Philosophy, 5 sections (2000, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2012)  
Ethics, 3 sections (2006)  
Philosophy of Art, 1 section (2007)  
Philosophy of Film, 1 section (2007)

**The New Orleans Lyceum**, New Orleans, Louisiana

Baseball Ethics: You Make the Call!, 1 section (2005)  
Introduction to Metaphor in Language, Art, and Culture, 1 section (2004)

**Rollins College**, Winter Park, Florida

Philosophy of Art, 1 section (2006)

**FELLOWSHIPS**

2018 Carter Fellowship, Loyola University, 2018-2019  
2001 Freie Universität Exchange Fellowship, Berlin, 2000-2001  
2000 Tulane Graduate Fellowship, 1997-2000

**GRADUATE QUALIFYING PAPERS**

"Hidden Truths: Interpreting Metaphorical Statements Truth-Conditionally," 1999  
(Committee: Forbes, Brower)

"Describing Music Metaphorically," 1998 (Committee: Zimmerman, Glenn)

**GRADUATE LEVEL CLASSES TAKEN**

Philosophy of Language (Forbes)	Plato (Burger)
Philosophy and Gender (Zimmerman)	Heidegger (Zimmerman)
Advanced Symbolic Logic (Lee)	Aristotle (Burger)
Mathematical Logic (Forbes)	Kant (Glenn)
Metaphysics of Modality (Forbes)	Kierkegaard (Glenn)
Philosophy of Language (Brower)	Epistemology (Brower)
Cognitive Science (Bogdan)	Rationalism (Lodge)
Philosophy of Law (Mack)	

**NEW ORLEANS COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

**The New Orleans Lyceum**, New Orleans, Louisiana, 2003-2005

Administrator and Facilitator. A leader in local initiative for "Building Communities of Inquiry."

**ERACE**, New Orleans, Louisiana, 2004-2005

Facilitator for discussion groups, which are free and open to the public.

### **FILM AND MUSIC**

2011 *Shine*, Documentary (3 episodes), Director, Video Editor  
2010 *Double Triple Zero*, Feature (85 mins), Director, Writer, Video Editor  
2009 *Half Awake*, Album (by *The Way*), Keyboards  
2009 *Pals*, Short (45 mins), Director, Writer, Video Editor  
2008 *Triple Zero*, Short (45 mins), Director, Writer, Video Editor  
2007 *Hyacinth Girl*, Music Video (5 mins), Director, Writer, Video Editor

### **REFERENCES**

Karl Widerquist	Jason Berntsen	Bruce Brower
Georgetown University	Xavier University	Tulane University
School of Foreign Service	1 Drexel Drive	Chairperson
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### **PLACEMENT CREDENTIALS**

Available from  
Department of Philosophy  
105 Newcomb Hall, Tulane University  
6823 St. Charles Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70118-5698