

**Dr. Brian Pocock Boeninger, Ph.D.**  
*Curriculum Vitae*

**Education:**

Ph.D., Philosophy: University of Notre Dame (August 2011)

*Dissertation:* "Partial Freedom and Degrees of Moral Responsibility: The Metaphysics of Influence and Libertarianism"

Committee: Thomas Flint (director), Alvin Plantinga, Peter van Inwagen, Michael Rea

B.A., Philosophy: University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (2002)

*Senior Thesis:* "The Explanatory Gap: Limits to Objectivity"

Advisor: Robert Welshon

B.A., Psychology: University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (2002)

**Areas of Specialization:**

Metaphysics, Philosophy of Action (especially Free Will & Moral Responsibility)

**Areas of Competence:**

Ethics

Epistemology

Philosophy of Mind

Philosophical Theology/Philosophy of Religion

**Academic Positions:**

Providence College:

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy (2019-present)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy (2011-2018)

University of Notre Dame:

Graduate Instructor (2008-2011)

## **Publications and Current Works in Progress:**

“Resting on Your Laurels: Deserting Desert in Paradise?” (co-authored with Robert K. Garcia), in *Paradise Understood: New Philosophical Essays About Heaven*. Ed. T. Ryan Byerly and Eric J. Silverman. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.

“Restrictivisms: On the Varieties and Implications of Limited Freedom”

“Two Problems for Non-Causal Rational Explanation”

## **Presentations:**

Commentator on “*Evangelium Vitae*, Medically Assisted Death, and the Heart of Catholic Social Thought,” by Raymond Hain  
St. Nicholas of Myra Conference: Catholic Social Thought: Relevance Reconsidered, at Providence College, Dec. 5-6, 2014

“Non-Conscious Influences, Reasons Explanation, and Free Will”  
Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, Boulder, CO, Aug. 8-11, 2013

Commentator on “Doxastic Control, Doxastic Practices, and Virtue: Toward an Ethics of Belief,” by Mark Boespflug  
Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, Boulder, CO, Aug. 8-11, 2013

“Deriving Heavenly Freedom: On the Incompatibility of Incompatibilism, Heaven, God & Evil” (co-author: Robert Garcia)  
The Virtue Revolution: The History of Virtue in Philosophy and Theology, in Houston, Texas, Apr. 8-9, 2011

“Deriving Heavenly Freedom: On the Incompatibility of Incompatibilism, Heaven, God & Evil” (co-author: Robert Garcia)  
6th Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference in Waco, Texas, Jan. 28-29, 2011

“Restrictivisms”  
Notre Dame Graduate Student Colloquium, Oct. 11, 2010

“Influence, Freedom, and Moral Responsibility Mitigation”  
Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress in Boulder, Colorado, Aug. 5-8, 2010

“Influence, Freedom, and Moral Responsibility”  
Notre Dame Graduate Student Colloquium, Nov. 15, 2009

Commentator on “Epistemic Evasion” by Berislav Marusic  
2009 APA Central Division Meeting in Chicago, Illinois, Feb. 18-21, 2009

## Teaching Experience:

### *Department of Philosophy, Providence College:*

PHL 319 – Philosophy of Knowledge (2017)  
PHL 317 – Philosophy of Religion (2015)  
PHL 309 – Biomedical Ethics (2017)  
PHL 306 – Business Ethics (2011, 2012, 2013)  
PHL 304 – Current Problems in Ethics (2013, 2014, 2018)  
PHL 460 – Ethics, Responsibility, and the Global Economy [Independent Study, 2012]  
PHL 207 – Philosophy of the Human Person (2015, 2016)  
PHL 202 – General Ethics (2011, 2012, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2021)  
PHL 103 – Introduction to Philosophy (2015, 2020, 2021)

### *Development of Western Civilization, Providence College:*

DWC 101 – Development of Western Civilization I (2013)  
DWC 102 – Development of Western Civilization II (2014, 2015, 2019, 2020)  
DWC 201 – Development of Western Civilization III (2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2019)  
DWC 202 – Development of Western Civilization IV (2013)

### *Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame [Graduate Instructor]:*

PHL 20420 – Agency, Responsibility and Determinism (2010, 2011)  
PHL 20101 – Introduction to Philosophy (2008)  
PHL 10101 – Introduction to Philosophy (2009, 2010)

### *Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame [Teaching Assistant]:*

PHL 30301 – History of Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (2005)  
PHL 20606 – Science, Technology, and Society (2006)  
PHL 20415 – Morality and Modernity (2007)  
PHL 20101 – Introduction to Philosophy (2006)  
PHL 10101 – Introduction to Philosophy (2004, 2005)

### *Invited Lecturer:*

“The Epistemology of Expertise and Expert Disagreement”  
UMass-Boston, *Honors Seminar: Evidence, Deception, and “Knowing” in the Internet Age*, 2/7/2022

“Foundational Concepts in Epistemology”  
UMass-Boston, *Honors Seminar: Evidence, Deception, and “Knowing” in the Internet Age*, 1/28/2022

- “Moral Rights, Duties, Justice, and Freedom.”  
UMass-Boston, *Personal & Social Determinants of Health: Disparity, Equity, & Health Promotion*, 10/27/2021
- “Utilitarianism, The State of Nature, and a Foundation for Moral Rights”  
UMass-Boston, *Personal & Social Determinants of Health: Disparity, Equity, & Health Promotion*, 10/20/2021
- “Freedoms, Rights, and Distributive Justice in the Context of Healthcare Disparities”  
UMass-Boston, *Personal & Social Determinants of Health: Disparity, Equity, & Health Promotion*, 3/24/2021
- “Negative and Positive Rights, Duties, and Freedoms”  
UMass-Boston, *Personal & Social Determinants of Health: Disparity, Equity, & Health Promotion*, 10/28/2020
- “Freedoms, Rights, and Duties: Clarifying the Concepts”  
UMass-Boston, *Adolescence*, 4/29/2015
- “Justice, Rights, and Health Care”  
UMass-Boston, *Introduction to Psychology*, 10/8/2014
- “Health Care Disparities, Distributive Justice, and the Capabilities Approach”  
UMass-Boston, *Personal & Social Determinants of Illness & Wellness*, 11/5/2013
- “The Ethics of Human Cloning: Some Arguments” (4 lectures)  
University of Notre Dame, *Death and Dying*, 11/30-12/9/2010
- “Euripides – *Iphigenia in Aulis*”  
University of Notre Dame, *College Seminar: Trojan War Tragedies*, 10/30/2007
- “The Evidential Problem of Evil”  
University of Notre Dame, *Introduction to Philosophy*, 2/22/2007
- “The Logical Problem of Evil”  
University of Notre Dame, *Introduction to Philosophy*, 2/20/2007
- “Freedom and Determinism”  
University of Notre Dame, *Introduction to Philosophy*, 4/28/2006
- “Anselm's Ontological Arguments for the Existence of God”  
University of Notre Dame, *History of Ancient and Medieval Philosophy*, 4/19/2005

## **Honors and Awards:**

Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award for Excellence in Teaching, University of Notre Dame, 2010

Nominated by Notre Dame Philosophy Department for Dondanville Family Graduate Award in Arts and Letters for Excellence in Teaching, 2008

Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award for Excellence in Teaching, University of Notre Dame, 2007

Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award for Excellence in Teaching, University of Notre Dame, 2006

Graduate Student Union Conference Presentation Grant, August 2010

Passed with Distinction, Oral Examination in Metaphysics, 2006

Area of Concentration: Metaphysics of Freedom

Evaluation (Fail/Pass/Good/Excellent): "Excellent"

Committee: Thomas Flint (director), Michael Loux, Alvin Plantinga, Peter van Inwagen, Ted Warfield

## **Professional Service and Affiliations:**

Member: American Philosophical Association; Society for Philosophy of Agency; Society of Christian Philosophers;

Development of Western Civilization Program Committee: co-led workshop on "Fostering Engaging Seminars" (2013)

Journal Referee: *Annals of Philosophy* (2016); *Faith and Philosophy* (2012, 2015); *Sophia* (2012)

*Faith and Philosophy* Editorial Assistant (Prof. Thomas Flint, editor), 2007-2009

*Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* Editorial Assistant (Prof. Gary Gutting, editor), 2006-2007

Rector, University of Notre Dame London Summer Study Abroad Program, May 9 – June 15, 2009