The Department’s Exchange Programs

The exchange program with the Philosophy Department at the Universität Bielefeld offers MA students at Georgia State the opportunity to study at one of the finest philosophy departments in Europe. Their faculty specialize in philosophy of mind and action, ethics, political philosophy, philosophy of law, philosophy of science, philosophy of language, epistemology, philosophy of mathematics, metaphysics, and the history of philosophy. The Department is working to open this program to undergraduates.

The exchange program with the Philosophy Department at the Université de Paris-Sorbonne offers graduate and undergraduate students in the philosophy program at Georgia State the opportunity to study at one of the most storied universities in the world in one of the most storied cities in the world. Founded in 1253, it has been a seat of higher learning for over 700 years. The faculty at the Sorbonne is strong across the board and they have particular strengths in ethics and political philosophy, the history of philosophy, logic, philosophy of science, philosophy of the social sciences, and aesthetics.

Sandy Dwyer
Promoted to Senior Lecturer

Please join us in congratulating Sandra Dwyer on being promoted to Senior Lecturer.

Dr. Dwyer coordinates graduate student teachers of philosophy and is co-author of Critical Thinking: The Art of Argument.

Congratulations Sandy!

Subscribe Today!

Join the Friends of Philosophy listserv and get announcements about talks, conferences and social events in the Department. To join, send an email to: listserv@listserv.gsu.edu. In the body of the message include only two words: subscribe philfriends. You should receive a welcome message confirming your subscription.

Philosopher's Guild

The Philosopher’s Guild is a student organization open to undergraduate Philosophy majors, minors, and the very interested. The Guild meets every first Thursday of the month.

For more information, please visit: http://philosophiaguild.blogspot.com

WWW.GSU.EDU/PHILOSOPHY
Inside the Rainbolt Lines*

Welcome to the Fall 2010 edition of the Philosophy Phile. It may seem to you like only yesterday that you got the Spring 2010 Philosophy Phile. And you would be right. We are now doing two newsletters a year to keep you up-to-date on the Department.

The best thing about having a Fall Philosophy Phile is that it gives us the opportunity to give you a list of events for the coming semester. Check out the Colloquium Series, the Neuro-philosophy Forum, and the Jean Beer Blumenfeld Center for Ethics sections. We think that there is something there for every philosophical taste.

On the undergrad front, over the summer the Presidents of the Sorbonne and Georgia State signed the renewal of our exchange agreement. The new agreement allows philosophy undergraduates to study at the Sorbonne, one of the finest institutions in Europe.

Our entering class of graduate students is the best ever. In Fall 2006, 55 students applied to the MA program and 34 (61%) were accepted. In Fall 2010, 143 students applied and 32 (22%) were accepted. The class of grad students who left us this past spring did very well. All of them who applied to PhD programs were accepted into at least one. The vast majority were accepted into two or more ranked PhD programs.

As you can see in the faculty section of the newsletter, our faculty continue to do outstanding things. Dr. Altman recently received the College of Arts and Science teaching award. Drs. Berry, Graham, Nahmias, and O’Keefe have books coming out this year. Folks are publishing papers right and left. If you want some ideas for something to read, check our their CVs on our web pages, www.gsu.edu/philosophy.

Thanks again to all of you who have supported the Department. Your monetary support is invaluable and we hope that you continue to support us in this way. Your contributions allow us to fund those things to which State funds can not support.

I hope to see you soon around the Department!

*At a baseball game, one Rainbolt line extends from second base through first base and into the seats. The other Rainbolt line extends from second base through third base and into the seats. One sitting inside the Rainbolt lines has a great view of the game. All philosophers are not geeks.
Philosophy Colloquium Series

The Philosophy colloquium series is an ongoing lecture series featuring local, national, and international speakers. Here are the dates for our Fall Colloquium Series. Please visit our website for updated information.

- **Friday, September 10, 3:00pm - 5:30pm**
  Stefano Masi (Università Ca’ Foscari, Venice) - Title: TBA  
  Location: Philosophy Conference Room

- **Friday, October 1, 12:30pm—2:30pm**
  Mitchell Green (University of Virginia) - Title: TBA  
  Location: Philosophy Conference Room

Neurophilosophy Forum

The Neurophilosophy Forum comprises a series of informal discussions among neuroscientists and philosophers at Georgia State and Emory University about issues related to the connection between brains and behavior.

- **Friday, September 17, 12:00pm –2:00pm**
  Anthony Dardis (Hofstra University) - “Going Metal on Mental Causation”  
  Location: Philosophy Conference Room

- **Friday, October 22, 12:30pm—2:00pm**
  Jeffrey Poland (Brown University and Rhode Island School of Design) and Barbara Von Eckhardt (Rhode Island School of Design) - “Varieties of Integration in Cognitive Neuroscience”  
  Location: Philosophy Conference Room

- **Friday, November 12 12:00pm—2:00pm**
  George Graham (Georgia State University) - “How To Be a Realist About Mental Disorder”  
  Location: Philosophy Conference Room

Jean Beer Blumenfeld Center for Ethics

The JBB Center for Ethics will host a reception and panel presentation on the work of Health Impact Fund.

- **Thursday, September 23, 5:30pm - “The Work of the Health Impact Fund (HIF)**
  Prof. Thomas Pogge (Philosophy, Yale University), Dr. Harvey Rubin, MD (Medicine, University of Pennsylvania), and Prof. Aidan Hollis (Economics, University of Calgary)  
  Location: Senate Salon—Student Center

We will also host a conference on the Ethics of Philanthropy. The conference will consider several themes in philanthropy, including who should give, how much, to whom for which purposes, how the money might be raised, and related ethical and practical issues.

- **Friday, September 24, 3:30pm - “The Ethics of Philanthropy”**
  Prof. Thomas Pogge (Philosophy, Yale University), Leif Wenar, and Patricia Illingworth  
  Location: Sinclaire Suite—Student Center
Georgia State Philosophers continue to define academic excellence. Our professors have received numerous awards and published many papers to further the field of philosophy.

Andy Altman was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to co-direct (with C.H. Wellman) a summer seminar for college and university teachers. Topic: “Philosophical Perspectives on Liberal Democracy and the Global Order.”

Jessica Berry. In December 2010, Dr. Berry’s new book Nietzsche and the Ancient Skeptical Tradition will be published through Oxford University Press.


George Graham. The MIT Press is just about to publish a collection of papers entitled Addition and Resposnsibility that he co-edited with Jefffrey Brown (Brown and the Rhode Island School of Design). These are original papers by philosophers, clinicians, and others on whether and to what extent, in any, addicts are, at least in part, responsible for their addictive behavior patterns and for overcoming them.


Daniel Weiskopf recently published “Concepts and the Modularity of Thought” (2010) Dialectica, 64, 107-130. This is a contribution to a special issue on recent trends in theories of concepts. Dr. Weiskopf is currently completing a book on philosophy of psychology with Fred Adams of the University of Delaware, to be published with Cambridge University Press. He has also begun work on a new project focusing on functional taxonomy, models, and mechanistic explanation in psychology and neuroscience.