

# Sean Donovan Driscoll

## Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy  
University of Memphis  
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### EDUCATION

- 2020     PhD     Philosophy, Boston College, with distinction.  
                  Dissertation: Linguistic Correctness in the *Cratylus*: From the Literary Tradition to Philosophy  
                  Advisor: John Sallis. Committee: Marina McCoy and Franco Trivigno
- 2016     M.A.     Philosophy, Boston College
- 2013     B.A.     Philosophy, Brigham Young University  
                  *Magna Cum Laude* and with university honors

**AREA OF SPECIALIZATION:**     Ancient Greek Philosophy

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE:**     Environmental Philosophy, Continental Philosophy, Ethics

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2024-     Assistant Professor, University of Memphis
- 2023-24    Visiting Assistant Professor, Brigham Young University
- 2022-23    Visiting Assistant Professor, Denison University
- 2021-22    Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Richmond
- 2019-20    Fulbright Research Fellow, University of Oslo

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- "Cratylus' Silence About Linguistic Correctness." *Ancient Philosophy*. (Accepted)
- 2024        "Socratic Heterodoxy: Ontological Commitment in the *Hippias Major*." *Phronesis* 69.1: 1-30.
- 2024        "Hippias, Heraclitus, and Socrates." *Illinois Classical Studies*. (Forthcoming)
- 2022        "Plato's Tool Analogy in *Cratylus* 386e-390e." *Ancient Philosophy*. 42.2: 367-388.
- 2020        "Metaphor as *Lexis*: Ricoeur on Derrida on Aristotle." *Études Ricoeuriennes / Ricoeur Studies* 11.1: 117-129.
- 2018        "Linguistic Mimēsis in Plato's *Cratylus*." In *The Many Faces of Mimesis*. Edited by Heather L. Reid and Jeremy C. DeLong, 113-125. Fonte Aretusa: Parnassos Press.

**REVIEWS**

- 2023 Plato's *Cratylus*. Mikeš (V.) (ed.) Proceedings of the Eleventh Symposium Platonicum Pragense. (Brill's Plato Studies 8.) Pp. xii + 198. Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2022. Cased, €120, US\$145. ISBN: 978-90-04-47301-0. *The Classical Review* 73.1: 81-84.

**GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

- 2021 Ancient Philosophy Society, Emerging Scholar Prize.  
 2018 Society for Ricoeur Studies, Graduate Student Essay Competition Winner.  
 2018-19 American-Scandinavian Foundation, Dissertation Research Fellowship—Declined.  
 2017-18 University Fellow, Boston College.  
 2017 The Donald J. White Excellence in Teaching Award, Boston College.  
 2014 Center for Teaching Excellence, Boston College: Apprenticeship in College Teaching Certificate.  
 2016 American Philosophical Association, grant to earn the American Association of Philosophy Teachers Seminar for Teaching and Learning in Philosophy Certificate.  
 2014-18 Ernest Fortin Memorial Grant, awarded to historians of philosophy for summer language study (2014, 2016, 2017, 2018).

**PRESENTATIONS**

- 2024 "The Tyranny of Names." Ancient Philosophy Society and Canadian Colloquium for Ancient Philosophy, Toronto Metropolitan University.  
 2024 "Calicles' Conceptual Engineering." Workshop on "Conceptual Engineering and its Place in the History of Philosophy," Institute of Philosophy II at Ruhr-Universität Bochum and the University of Warsaw.  
 2022 "Why Does Cratylus Insist that all Names are Correct?" Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy.  
 2022 "Hippias and Socratic Heterodoxy," 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Ancient Philosophy Workshop, University of Texas, Austin / University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.  
 2022 "Cratylus' Silence About Linguistic Correctness," American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy panel.  
 2021 "Misology, Misanthropy, Heraclitus, and Heracliteans in Plato's *Phaedo*," Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy.  
 2021 Comments on Tyler Macdowall's "*To Sōma and the Aisthēsis in Plato's Phaedo*," Virginia Philosophical Association  
 2021 "Intellectual Charity and Breaking the Barriers to Critical Thinking," American Association of Philosophy Teachers, Otterbein University.  
 2021 "Cratylus' Silence About Linguistic Correctness," Ancient Philosophy Society, Utah Valley University.  
 2021 "Duns Scotus on the Status of This and That," Philosophy Lecture Series, Brigham Young University.  
 2020 "Unity of Opposites in the *Phaedo*," Utah Ancient Greek Philosophy Workshop.  
 2020 "Analogical Reasoning in Plato," Bergen Ancient Philosophy Group, University of Bergen. (Invited, but cancelled due to COVID-19)

- 2020 “What Plato Shaved with Ockham’s Razor,” Philosophy Lecture Series, Brigham Young University.
- 2020 “Cratylus’ Silence About Linguistic Correctness,” The Society for Ancient Philosophy, University of Oslo.
- 2019 “Between Origin and Artwork,” Southwest Seminar in Continental Philosophy, University of Utah.
- 2019 “Does Plato Quote Homer Just for Fun?” Philosophy Lecture Series, Brigham Young University.
- 2018 Discussant, workshop on “Historiography, Metaphilosophy, Methodology and the Canon,” McMaster University.
- 2017 “Plato’s *Cratylus* on Words as Images,” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Fordham University.
- 2017 “Metaphor as *Lexis*: Ricoeur on Derrida on Aristotle,” The Society for Ricoeur Studies, Boston College.
- 2017 “Do We Have a Duty to the Inorganic?” North American Levinas Society, Loyola University Chicago.
- 2017 “Lyric as Intentionality” International Network for the Study of Lyric on “Situating Lyric,” Boston University.
- 2017 “Linguistic Mimesis in Plato’s *Cratylus*,” International Symposium on the Heritage of Western Greece, Conference on “Μίμησις –Mimēsis: Imitation, Emulation, Representation, Reenactment,” Fonte Aretusa, Syracuse, Sicily.
- 2017 “Mountain Faces: Climbing, Environmental Philosophy, and the Sacred,” International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture, on “Mountains and Sacred Landscapes,” The New School University.
- 2017 “Heidegger, Borges, and Narrative Truth,” Graduate Conference on “For the Love of Truth,” Boston College.
- 2017 “Ecosystem Ecology and Ecosystem Economy in Public Lands Management,” Graduate Conference on “Ecology/ies,” Northeastern University.
- 2016 “The Methodological Function of Memory in Plato’s *Phaedo*” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Fordham University.
- 2016 “When Analogy Fails: *energeia* in Aristotle’s *Metaphysics Theta 6*” Northern New England Philosophical Association, Keene State College.
- 2016 Comment: “on Kerimov, Robertson, and Art,” Heidegger Circle, De Paul University.
- 2016 “Reading Plato as Historiography,” Graduate Conference on “The Philosophy of the History of Philosophy,” Boston College.

## COURSES TAUGHT

Plato’s *Cratylus* (Graduate Seminar)

Environmental Ethics (2 sections)

Plato’s Political Thought (Seminar)

Public Ethics

Western Political Heritage (2 sections)

Plato's Metaphysics (Seminar, 2 sections)

Aristotle's Theoretical Philosophy (Seminar)

Surveys of Ancient Greek and Medieval Philosophy (15 Sections)

Surveys of Modern Philosophy (5 Sections)

Introduction to Ethics (2 Sections)

Introduction to Philosophy (5 Sections)

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

- 2024- Faculty Senator
- 2017 Conference Organizer, "Varieties of Phenomenology," BPC.
- 2014-17 Editorial Assistant, Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy
- 2015-17 Co-creator and director of the Boston Phenomenology Circle (BPC)  
<https://bostonphenomenologycircle.wordpress.com>
- 2016 Conference Organizer, "Contemporary Work in Phenomenology," BPC.
- 2013-15 Facilitator, Israel-Palestine Conflict Graduate Seminar, Center for Christian-Jewish Learning, Boston College
- 2015 Conference Organizer, "Equal Rights for All: A 'New Paradigm' for Israeli Jewish-Palestinian Peace and Reconciliation," with Antony Lerman, Boston College and the Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life.
- 2014 Conference Organizer, "After Gaza: What direction for Palestine and Israel?" with Khalil Shikaki, Boston College.
- 2014 Conference Organizer, "The Peace Process in the Middle East: Developments since Oslo," with Shai Feldman, Boston College.
- 2014 Film series Organizer for the philosophy conference "On Violence," Boston College.
- 2013 Conference Organizer, "Conflicting Narratives in the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict," with Father Raymond Helmick, S.J., Boston College.

## **LANGUAGES**

- Greek (Classical) advanced reading ability.
- Spanish Advanced reading, writing, and speaking ability.
- French Advanced reading ability; intermediate speaking ability.
- German Intermediate reading ability.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Ancient Philosophy Society  
Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy  
American Association of Philosophy Teachers  
American Philosophical Association

**REFERENCES**

John Sallis  
Philosophy Department  
Boston College  
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