November 1, 2026

LOUIS E. LOEB

CURRICULUM VITAE

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EMPLOYMENT:

Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, The University of Michigan, 2010–15
Professor, The University of Michigan, 1989–2015
Visiting Associate Professor, The University of California, Los Angeles, 1983
Associate Professor, The University of Michigan, 1980–89
Assistant Professor, The University of Michigan, 1974–80
Instructor, University of Maryland, University College, Far East Division (during military service), 1970–71

after retirement: Columbia University, fall 2015; Bard College at Simon's Rock, Fall 2017

EDUCATION:

Princeton University, Ph.D., 1975
Oxford University (Brasenose College), B. Phil., 1969
Wesleyan University (Connecticut), B.A., 1967

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

University of Michigan LSA–OVPR Humanities Fellowship, Fall 2009
American Philosophical Association, Patrick Romanell Prize for 2006–07
James B. and Grace J. Nelson Fellow in Philosophy, University of Michigan, 2000–15
Fellow, Center for the Study of Modern Philosophy, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1999–2000
University of Michigan Graduate School (Rackham) Faculty Research Fellowship, 1978, 1985, and Grant, 1978–80, 1985–86
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend, 1978
Ohio State University Postdoctoral Fellowship, 1976–77

BOOKS:

Reflection and the Stability of Belief: Essays on Descartes, Hume, and Reid (a collection of twelve of my essays), Oxford University Press, 2010. SIMULTANEOUS PUBLICATION IN CLOTH AND PAPER.

Stability, and Justification in Hume's Treatise, Oxford University Press, 2002. FULL-TEXT SEARCHABLE ELECTRONIC EDITION AT *OXFORD SCHOLARSHIP ONLINE.* PAPERBACK EDITION [2005].

From Descartes to Hume: Continental Metaphysics and the Development of Modern Philosophy, Cornell University Press, 1981.

ARTICLES:

"Hume on Causal Inference, the External World, and the Religious Hypothesis: From the *Treatise* to the first *Enquiry* and to the Later Works on Religion," forthcoming in Peter Millican and Tamas Demeter, *eds.*, *Recasting Hume's Treatise: The Development of His Philosophy,* Oxford University Press.

"Hume's Anticipation of Modularity and its Impact on His Epistemology," in *Oxford Studies in Early Modern Philosophy*, 2026 (Vol. 13), pp. 215–246.

"The Case Against Cartesian Rationalism in Hume and Reid," in Jonathan Cotrell and Aaron Garrett, *eds.*, *Naturalisms in Spinoza, Hume, Shepherd,* Routledge, 2026, pp. 207–221.

"Locke and British Empiricism," in Matthew Stuart, *ed., A Companion to Locke,* Blackwell, 2015, pp. 505–527.

"Setting the Standard: Don Garrett's *Hume*," *Hume Studies*, November 2014 (Vol. 40, No. 2), pp. 243–278.

"Epistemological Commitment in Hume's *Treatise*," *Oxford Studies in Early Modern Philosophy*, 2011 (Vol. 6), pp. 309–347.

"What is Worth Preserving in the Kemp Smith Interpretation of Hume?", *British Journal of the History of Philosophy*, September 2009 (Vol. 17, No. 4), pp. 769–797.

"Inductive Inference in Hume's Philosophy," in Elizabeth Radcliffe, *ed., A Companion to Hume,* Blackwell, 2008, pp. 106–125.

"The Naturalisms of Hume and Reid," the 2006–07 Romanell Lecture on Philosophical Naturalism, *Proceedings and Addresses of the American Philosophical Association,* November 2007 (Vol. 81, No. 2), pp. 65–92.

"Psychology, Epistemology, and Skepticism in Hume's Argument about Induction," *Synthese*, Special Issue on Hume's Naturalism, October 2006 (Vol. 152, No. 3), pp. 321–338.

"The Mind-Body Union, Interaction, and Subsumption," in Christia Mercer and Eileen O'Neill, *eds., Early Modern Philosophy, Mind, Matter, and Metaphysics,* Oxford University Press, 2005, pp. 65–85.

"Stability and Justification in Hume's *Treatise*, Another Look – A Response to Erin Kelly, Frederick Schmitt, and Michael Williams," *Hume Studies,* November 2004 (Vol. 30, No. 2), pp. 339–404.

"Hume's Agent-centered Sentimentalism," *Philosophical Topics,* Spring/Fall 2003 (Vol. 31, Nos. 1–2), pp. 309–341.

"Integrating Hume's Accounts of Belief and Justification," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research,* September 2001 (Vol. LXIII, No. 2), pp. 279–303.

"Hume's Explanations of Meaningless Beliefs," *The Philosophical Quarterly,* April 2001 (Vol. 51, No. 203), pp. 145–164.

"Sextus, Descartes, Hume, and Peirce: On Securing Settled Doxastic States," *Noûs,* June 1998 (Vol. XXXII, No. 2), pp. 205–230.

"Causal Inference, Associationism, and Skepticism in Part III of Book I of Hume's *Treatise,*" in Patricia Easton, *ed., Logic and the Workings of the Mind: The Logic of Ideas and Faculty Psychology in Early Modern Philosophy,* North American Kant Society Studies in Philosophy, Volume 5 (Ridgeview), 1997, pp. 283–305.

"Instability and Uneasiness in Hume's Theories of Belief and Justification," *The British Journal for the History of Philosophy,* September 1995 (Vol. 3, No. 2), pp. 301–29.

"Hume on Stability, Justification, and Unphilosophical Probability," *Journal of the History of Philosophy,* January 1995 (Vol. XXXIII, no. 1), pp. 91–121.

"Causation, Extrinsic Relations, and Hume's Second Thoughts about Personal Identity," *Hume Studies,* November 1992 (Vol. XVIII, No. 2), pp. 219–231.

"The Cartesian Circle," in John G. Cottingham, *ed., Cambridge Companions to Philosophy: Descartes,* Cambridge University Press, 1992, pp. 200–235.

"Stability, Justification, and Hume's Propensity to Attribute Identity to Related Objects," *Philosophical Topics*, Spring, 1991 (Vol. 19, No. 1), pp. 237–270.

"The Priority of Reason in Descartes," *The Philosophical Review,* January 1990 (Vol. XCIX, No. 11), pp. 3–43.

"Was Descartes Sincere in His Appeal to the Light of Nature?", *Journal of the History of Philosophy,* July 1988 (Vol. XXVI, No. 3), pp. 377–406.

"Is There Radical Dissimulation in Descartes' *Meditations*?", in Amelie O. Rorty, *ed., Essays on Descartes' Meditations,* University of California Press, 1986, pp. 243–270.

"Is There a Problem of Cartesian Interaction?", *Journal of the History of Philosophy,* April 1985 (Vol. XXIII, No. 2), pp. 227–231.

"Hume's Moral Sentiments and the Structure of the *Treatise,*" *Journal of the History of Philosophy,* October 1977 (Vol. XV, No. 4), pp. 395–403.

REPRINTED in Stanley Tweyman, *ed., David Hume, Critical Assessments, Volume IV, Ethics, Passions, Sympathy, 'Is' and 'Ought',* pp. 99–109, Routledge, 1995.

"Causal Overdetermination and Counterfactuals Revisited," *Philosophical Studies,* March 1977 (Vol. 31, No. 3), pp. 211–214.

"On a Heady Attempt to Befiend Causal Theories of Knowledge," *Philosophical Studies,* May 1976 (Vol. 29, No. 5), pp. 331–336.

"Causal Theories and Causal Overdetermination," *The Journal of Philosophy,* September 5, 1974 (Vol. LXXI, No. 15), pp. 525–544.

REVIEWS:

P. J. E. Kail, *Projection and Realism in Hume's Philosophy*, *Mind*, January, 2009 (Vol. 118, No. 469), pp. 181–185.

Gareth B. Matthews, *Thought's Ego in Augustine and Descartes, Mind,* January, 1995 (Vol. 104, No. 413), pp. 182–186.

Annette C. Baier, *A Progress of Sentiments, Reflections on Hume's Treatise,* Review Essay, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research,* June, 1994 (Vol. LIV, No. 2), pp. 467–474.

John L. Pollock, *Knowledge and Justification, The Philosophical Review,* July 1983 (Vol. XCII, No. 3), pp. 455–460.

J. C. A. Gaskin, *Hume's Philosophy of Religion, The Philosophical Review,* April, 1981 (Vol. XC, No. 2), pp. 283–285.

Robert McRae, *Leibniz: Perception, Apperception, and Thought, Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie,* 1979 (Vol. 61, No. 2), pp. 216–219.

Richard Knowles Morris and Michael W. Fox, *eds., On the Fifth Day, Animal Rights and Human Ethics, Michigan Quarterly Review,* Summer, 1979 (Vol. XVIII, No. 3), pp. 503–508.

Ian Hacking, *Why Does Language Matter to Philosophy?, The Philosophical Review,* July 1977 (Vol. LXXXVI, No. 3), pp. 437–440.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND COMMENTARIES:

Comments on Ehli Bridger, "Body, Coherence, and Hume's Galley," Conference in Honor of Kenneth Winkler, d University, October 14–15, 2023.

"The Case Against Cartesian Rationalism in Hume and Reid," Conference in Honor of Don Garrett, New York University, May 23–24, 2023.

"Customary Inference and the Senses in the *Treatise* and *Enquiry*; Hume's Anticipation of Modularity," A Gathering in Honor of David Velleman, New York University, May 19–20, 2022.

"Causal Inference and Perception in the *Treatise* and first *Enquiry*; Hume's Anticipation of Modularity," 8th Biennial Margaret Dauler Wilson Conference, SUNY Buffalo, June 15–17, 2018.

"Causal Inference and Perception in the *Treatise* and first *Enquiry*; Hume's Anticipation of Modularity," Early Modern–Saint Louis, St. Louis, Missouri, April 21–22, 2017.

"Causal Inference, the External World, and Religious Belief in the *Treatise* and First *Enquiry* – How Hume's Anti-Cartesianism Leads to Concessions to Reid and Rationalism," Invited Paper, New England Colloquium in Early Modern Philosophy," Yale University, May 17–19, 2016.

"Causal Inference, the External World, and Religious Belief in the *Treatise* and First *Enquiry* – How Hume's Anti-Cartesianism Leads to Concessions to Reid and Rationalism," Atlantic Canada Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, July 7–10, 2015.

"How Hume's Anti-Cartesianism Leads him to Make Concessions to Reid and Rationalism," Central Michigan University Conference on Hume and his Eighteenth-century Critics, September 26–27, 2014.

"Causal Inference, the External World, and Religious Belief in the *Treatise* and First *Enquiry* – How Hume's Anti-Cartesianism Leads to Concessions to Reid and Rationalism", Invited Paper, 41st International Hume Society Conference, Portland, Oregon, July 22–26, 2014.

Author Meets Critic Session on Don Garrett, *Hume* (Routledge, 2014), 40th International Hume Society Conference, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, July 22–27, 2013.

"Epistemological Commitment in Hume's *Treatise*," Midwest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Macalester College, April 30 – May 2, 2010.

"Locke and British Empiricism," 4th Biennial Margaret Dauler Wilson Conference, Cornell University, June 30 – July 2, 2008.

"The Naturalisms of Hume and Reid," the Patrick Romanell Lecture on Philosophical Naturalism, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meetings, April 5, 2007.

"What is the Kemp Smith Interpretation (and Why Does it Matter)?", A Colloquium on Kemp Smith's Hume, Oxford University, May 2006.

"Psychology, Epistemology, and Skepticism in Hume's Argument about Induction", Wake Forest University Hester Conference on Hume's Naturalism, April 8–10, 2005.

Author Meets Critics session on *Stability and Justification in Hume's Treatise,* 31st Annual Hume Society Conference, Tokyo, August 2–7, 2004. Critics: Jane McIntyre and Wade Robison.

Symposium on "What Was Humean Causation?", American Philosophical Association, Central Division, April 22–25, 2004; commentator on Janet Broughton and Don Garrett.

Author Meets Critics session on *Stability and Justification in Hume's Treatise,* American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meetings, Philadelphia, December 2003. Critics: Janet Broughton and David Owen.

Session on *Stability and Justification in Hume's Treatise,* Hume Society joint meeting with American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Cleveland, April 23–26, 2003. Commentators: Kate Abramson, Ted Morris, and John Wright.

"Hume's Meaning Empiricism and His Psychological Explanations of Meaningless Beliefs: A Reconciliation," invited paper, Ohio State University Conference on the History of Modern Philosophy, May 2000.

"Stability in Hume's Accounts of Belief and Justification," invited paper, 26th Hume Society Conference, Cork, Ireland, July, 1999.

"Causal Inference, Associationism, and Skepticism in Part III of Book I of Hume's *Treatise,*" Conference on Logic and the Workings of the Mind: Ramus to Kant, The University of Western Ontario, May 1995.

"Descartes, Peirce, Hume, and Sextus," invited paper for American Philosophical Association Central Division meetings, April 26–29, 1995.

"Stability and Justification" and "Stability and Moral Judgment," invited presentations for NEH Summer Institute on David Hume, Dartmouth College, July 19–20, l990.

"Permanence in Belief in Hume and Descartes," Hume Society joint meeting with the American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, Portland, Oregon, March 23–26, 1988.

"Naturalistic Epistemology in Descartes and Hume," Symposium on Modern Philosophy, Bowling Green State University, January 29, 1986.

Comments on Daniel Garber, "Something-I-Know-Not-What: Berkeley on Locke on Substance," Western Michigan University – Kalamazoo College, Berkeley Colloquium, March 15–17, 1985.

Response to Edwin M. Curley, "Revising the History of Philosophy" (on *From Descartes to Hume: Continental Metaphysics and the Development of Modern Philosophy*), Author Meets Critic Session, American Philosophical Association, Western Division Meetings, Chicago, April 28–30, 1983.

"Leibniz Versus Locke on the Arbitrariness of Perceptions of Secondary Qualities," Rice University Conference on the Philosophy of Locke and Leibniz, November 15–16, 1981.

Comments on Margaret D. Wilson, "Infinite Understanding, *Scientia Intuitiva* and *Ethics* I.16," American Philosophical Association, Western Division Meetings, Milwaukee, April 23–25, 1981.

"The Mind-Body Problem and the Preestablished Harmony," Leibniz Society, American Philosophical Association, Western Division Meetings, Milwaukee, April 23–25, 1981.

Comments on Robert Adams "Leibniz's Conception of Corporeal Substance," Leibniz Society, American Philosophical Association, Western Division Meetings, Detroit, April 25–27, 1980.

"Coherence, Constancy, and Causation in 'Of skepticism with regard to the senses'," (with Mark D. Tieman), 7th Hume Conference, Banff, Canada, September 15–18, 1978.

Comments on Annette Baier, "Fictions and Artifices," McGill Bicentennial Hume Congress, Montreal, Canada, September 29–October 3, 1976.

Comments on David S. Scarrow, "Leibniz on Causality Between Substances," Western Division Meetings, American Philosophical Association, New Orleans, April 29–May 1, 1976.

"Hume's Classification of the Impressions of Reflection," Second Hume Conference, Northern Illinois University, November 9–10, 1973.

GUEST PRESENTATIONS:

Central Michigan, 1980, 2002; Denison, 1978; Michigan State, 1988; National University of Singapore, 2018; Ohio State, 1979, 1989; Scripps, 2006; Smith, 2000; Southern Methodist, 1986; Union, 1984, 1990, 2000, 2009; UCLA, 1983; University of Chicago, 1981; University of Massachusetts, 2005; University of Michigan, Flint, 1981; University of Vermont, 1981; Western Ontario, 1979, 1992, 2004; Vassar, 2018; Wellesley, 1999;Western Michigan, 2011.

SERVICE IN PHILOSOPHY AND EDUCATION:

Editorial Boards, *Philosophers' Imprint*, 2000–14; *Hume Studies*, 2007–12

Referee Reports and Evaluations:

Philosophy Department Reviews – Brown University, 2012; University of California, Santa Barbara, 2010; Ohio State University, 2007; University of Massachusetts, 2003.

Promotion, Appointment, Reappointment, and Award Reviews – Colgate, Columbia, Florida State, Harvard (twice), Illinois Wesleyan, Iowa State, MIT, Ohio State (Mansfield), Purdue, Santa Cruz, Southern Methodist, Stanford (four times), Texas Tech, University of Colorado, University of Pittsburgh, University of San Francisco, University of Texas, University of Utah, University of Virginia, Villanova, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Journals – *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie, British Journal for the History of Philosophy, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, History of Philosophy Quarterly*, *Hume Studies, Inquiry, Journal of the History of Ideas, Journal of the History of Philosophy, Journal of Modern Philosophy, Mind, Noûs, Oxford Studies in Early Modern Philosophy, Philosophers' Imprint, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Review, Philosophical Topics, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Philosophy of Science*, *Synthese.*

Books – Bradford Books, Cambridge UP, Dickenson Publishing, Oxford UP (UK), Oxford UP (USA), Routledge, St. Martin's Press.

Fellowship and Grant Proposals – Connaught Committee (University of Toronto), National Endowment for the Humanities, National Humanities Center, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada).

Conferences – Hume Society.

Nominating Committee, American Philosophical Association Central Division, 1993–94, 2002–03.

Chair, Program Committee, Hume Society joint meetings with the American Philosophical Association, Central Division, 1995–97.

Board of Trustees, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, 1974–77.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE (selected):

Chair, 1993–99
Interim Chair, 2010–11; Acting Chair, 2004–05, Fall 2002, Winter and Spring/Summer 1991
Fund-raising/Development Coordinator, 2011–12, 1983–93
Chair, GSI Training and Evaluation, 2011–12
Placement Director, 2006–09, 1991–93, 1986–87
Coordinator, Webpage Development, 2005–06
Chair, Tanner Library Committee, 2005–06, 1991–92, 1985–87
Chair, Recruitment Committee, Winter, 2003, 2000–02
Chair, Graduate Studies Committee, 1991–93, 1986–87
Chair, Graduate Admissions, 1988–89, 1980–81

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

College of Literature, Science and the Arts (LSA) Grievance Board, 2007–10, 2012–14
Merit Graduate Fellowship Selection Committee, Rackham Graduate School, 2005–06
LSA Humanities Divisional Evaluation Committee, 2000–02
Inteflex (Integrated Premedical–Medical Program) Steering Committee, 1997–99
University Admissions Task Force, 1985–86
Chair, Admissions Steering Committee, LSA, 1982–85 (Member, 1980–85)
Faculty Grant Divisional Board, Rackham School, 1982–83
Dissertation/Thesis Grant Selection Committee, Rackham School, 1981
First Year/Michigan College Faculty Selection Committee, Rackham School, 1980
Joint Student–Faculty Policy Committee, LSA, 1979–80
LSA Curriculum Committee, 1978–79

TEACHING AWARDS:

Golden Apple Award Nominee (2014)
Arthur F. Thurnau Professorship (2010–15)
LSA Teaching Excellence Awards (1990 and 2001)
AMOCO Teaching Award (1977)

COURSES TAUGHT:

Introductory:
Collegiate Seminar
Honors Introduction to Philosophy
Introduction to Philosophy: Problems and Principles (170–325 student enrollment)
Skepticism and Rationality

Intermediate Undergraduate:
History of Philosophy: 17th and 18th Centuries
Philosophy of Religion

Advanced Undergraduate:
Undergraduate Honors (Thesis) Seminar
Undergraduate Seminar (Persons, Descartes, Hume)

Advanced Undergraduate/Lower Level Graduate:
British Empiricism
Continental Rationalism
Descartes
Epistemology
Hume

Graduate Seminars:
Candidacy Seminar
Epistemology (Foundations Theories)
History of Philosophy (Descartes, Hume)
Metaphysics (Causation)
Proseminars (History of Philosophy; Current and Early Modern Epistemology)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

Member, American Philosophical Association, 1973–; Hume Society, 1977–; Leibniz Society, 1978–