

SEAN M. COSTELLO

2215 Angell Hall
435 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1003

www.seanmcostello.com
AOS: Early Modern; Ancient
AOC: Medieval; Mind; Metaphysics

scostel@umich.edu
+1 (401) 644-6037
U.S. Citizen

EDUCATION

University of Michigan

PhD in Philosophy

Dissertation: Early Modern Dualism and Unities of Consciousness

Chair: Tad Schmaltz

Committee: Sonya Özbey, Janum Sethi, Jamie Tappenden

Ann Arbor, MI, USA

In progress from 2020

MA in Philosophy

Winter 2024

Cognitive Science Graduate Certificate

August 2022

University of Oxford, Hertford College

MSt in Ancient Philosophy (Distinction)

Hertford College Senior Scholar (2019 – 2021)

Thesis: *An Ecological Approach to Aristotle's Theories of Light and Vision*

Supervisor: Anna Marmodoro

Oxford, UK

October 2017 – July 2020

(due to medical leave)

University of Notre Dame

Bachelor of Arts (Summa cum laude)

Majors: Honours Philosophy; International Economics

Notre Dame, IN, USA

August 2013 – May 2016

Brown University

First Year of Studies

Providence, RI, USA

August 2012 – May 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Early Modern Publications:

- [1] 'Anne Conway on memory'. *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 31.5 (2023), pp. 912–931. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/09608788.2023.2164920>. (Approximately 9,500 words.)

Ancient Publications:

- [3] 'Nocturnal Vision in Plato's *Timaeus*'. *Ancient Philosophy* 44.1 (2024), pp. 59–81. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5840/ancientphil20244414>. (Approximately 12,800 words.)
- [2] 'Aristotle on Light and Vision: An "Ecological" Interpretation'. *Apeiron* 55.2 (2022), pp. 247–279. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1515/apeiron-2019-0063>. (Approximately 16,000 words.)
- [1] 'The Object of Aristotle's God's Νόησις in *Metaphysics* Λ.9', *The Journal of Greco-Roman Studies* 57.3 (2018), pp. 49–66. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23933/jgrs.2019.57.3.49>. (Approximately 6,500 words.)

AWARDS AND HONOURS

- Rackham Dissertation Fellowship**, University of Michigan, Winter 2024 (\$12,990 USD plus all university fees and a teaching release. Awarded by the Rackham Graduate School.)
- Hertford Senior Scholarship**, Hertford College, University of Oxford, 2019 – 2021 (£5,000 GBP plus accommodation rights, dining rights, and Associate Membership of the Senior Common Room. Awarded for an outstanding record of academic achievement. Selected out of 80 postgraduate applicants from across all Colleges and degree-subjects at Oxford. Usually awarded to a final-year doctoral student.)
- Durham Centre for Ancient and Medieval Philosophy Bursary**, University of Durham, 2019 (£400 GBP awarded for presentation at the 2019 International Medieval Congress.)
- Blackwell's Scholarship**, University of Oxford, 2017 – 2018 (£1,200 GBP awarded for academic excellence.)
- Thomas J. McMahon IV Endowment for Excellence for the Pursuit of Scholarship**, University of Oxford, 2017 – 2020 (£11,366 GBP awarded for postgraduate study.)
- Dockweiler Medal in Philosophy**, University of Notre Dame, 2016 (Medal given for best essay on a philosophical topic for my undergraduate thesis, *The Immortality of the Human Soul in Aristotle's De Anima*.)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- [7] 'Henry More on the Extended Mind', presented at the Forum Descartes, Paris, France, 18 January 2024.
- [6] 'Anne Conway on Memory', presented at the New Voices on Women in the History of Philosophy Virtual Conference, Centre for the History of Women Philosophers and Scientists, Universität Paderborn, Germany, 26 February 2022.
- [5] 'Nocturnal Vision in Plato's *Timaeus*', presented at the 44th Ancient Philosophy Workshop, University of Texas at Austin, USA, 6 March 2021.
- [4] 'Aquinas on Artifacts and Substances', presented at the International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, UK, 3 July 2019.
- [3] 'Arriving at an Ecological-Structuralist Interpretation of Aristotle's Theory of Visual Perception Through a Reconceptualization of his Theory of Light', presented at Sensual Reflections: Re-Thinking the Role of the Senses in the Greco-Roman World, University of Cambridge, UK, 8 December 2018.
- [2] 'A New Approach to Aristotelian Elemental Transformation', presented at The Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy's Annual Meeting, Christopher Newport University, Virginia, USA, 20 October 2018.
- [1] 'The Dangers of a User-Based Model of the Self: A Regress at *Alcibiades I*, 129b–130c', presented at Plato's *Alcibiades I* Revisited, University of Cambridge, UK, 21 September 2018.

SELECTED POSTGRADUATE AND EARLY-CAREER CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- [4] 'Émilie Du Châtelet on Love', presented at the Villanova Conference on the Philosophy of Love, University of Villanova, Pennsylvania, USA, 6 April 2024.
- [3] 'Aristotle on the Role of Emotion in Memory', presented at the Cambridge History of Memory and Emotions Workshop, Cambridge University, UK, 31 October 2022.
- [2] 'Τῷ ὄντι Θεαυτόν: The Object of God's Νόησις in *Metaphysics* Λ.9', presented at The Institute of Classical Studies Postgraduate Work-in-Progress Seminar Series, University College London, UK, 16 November 2018.
- [1] 'Biological Teleology in "The Rainfall Argument" of *Physics* II.8', presented at The St. Andrews Graduate Conference in Ancient Philosophy: Teleology, Intelligence and Life in the Platonic and Aristotelian Tradition, University of St. Andrews, Scotland, 4 June 2018.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Michigan

Primary Instructor:

(Responsible for all course-design, lecturing, and grading as the sole instructor)

- [1] Love, Loving, and Loss. PHIL 151. Fall Term 2023.
- [2] The Self. PHIL 152. Summer Term 2023.

Graduate Student Instructor:

(Responsible for all grading and for running two one-hour weekly meetings of my own design)

- [1] Introduction to Philosophy (for Jim Joyce). PHIL 101. Two Sections. Winter Term 2023.
- [2] Introduction to Philosophy (for Maegan Fairchild). PHIL 101. Two Sections. Fall Term 2022.
- [3] Descartes to Kant (for Janum Sethi). PHIL 289. Two Sections. Winter Term 2022.
- [4] Minds and Machines (for Eric Swanson). PHIL 340. Two Sections. Fall Term 2021.

University of Oxford

Revision Classes:

(Responsible for preparing students for their comprehensive examinations)

- [1] Plato's *Republic*. Hertford College. Hilary and Trinity Terms 2020.
- [2] Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*. Hertford College. Hilary and Trinity Terms 2020.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

American Philosophical Association

APA Task Force on Enrolment and Major Recruitment

United States of America
February 2023 – Present

The Philosopher's Annual

Editor

Ann Arbor, MI, USA
February 2023 – September 2023

University of Michigan, Department of Philosophy

Member of the Philosophy Graduate Admissions Committee

Ann Arbor, MI, USA
August 2022 – April 2023

American Philosophical Association

Member of the APA Board

United States of America
July 2022 – present

American Philosophical Association

Graduate Student Council: Secretary (2021–2022) and Chair (2022–2024)

United States of America
July 2021 – present

British Philosophical Association

Postgraduate Representative on the Executive Committee

United Kingdom
November 2019 – November 2020

British Postgraduate Philosophy Association

President

United Kingdom
April 2019 – November 2020

University of Oxford, Faculty of Philosophy

Chair of the Ockham Society Committee

Oxford, UK
June 2018 – June 2020

University of Oxford, Faculty of Philosophy

Chair of the Jowett Society Committee

Oxford, UK
June 2018 – July 2019

ADDITIONAL LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

University of Michigan, Centre for Research on Learning & Teaching
Graduate Student Instructional Consultant

Ann Arbor, MI, USA
August 2023 – Present

University of Michigan, Sweetland Centre for Writing
Student Advisory Board

Ann Arbor, MI, USA
September 2022 – May 2023

University of Oxford, Blackfriars Hall
President, Middle Common Room and Junior Common Room

Oxford, UK
June 2018 – January 2019

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Philosophical Association, 2020 – present.

LANGUAGES

English: native speaker

Spanish: research-level proficiency

French: research-level proficiency

Latin: research-level proficiency

Attic Greek: research-level proficiency

REFERENCES

Tad Schmaltz

Professor of Philosophy
and James B. and Grace J. Nelson Fellow
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
2231 Angell Hall
435 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
United States of America
tschmalt@umich.edu
+1 (734) 764-6285

Janum Sethi

Associate Professor of Philosophy
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
2251 Angell Hall
435 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
United States of America
janumset@umich.edu
+1 (734) 764-6285

Jamie Tappenden

Professor of Philosophy
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
2228 Angell Hall
435 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
United States of America
tappen@umich.edu
+1 (734) 764-6285

Anna Marmodoro

Chair of Metaphysics
Durham University
Research Fellow
Corpus Christi College
University of Oxford
Oxford, OX1 4JF
United Kingdom
anna.marmodoro@philosophy.ox.ac.uk
+44 1865-276700