

# Matthew Burstein

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## Academic Positions

- Visiting Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department, Washington and Lee University (2013–14)
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department, Georgetown University (2012–13)
- Affiliated Faculty, Philosophy Department, Georgetown University (2011–2012)
- Academic Program Officer for Instruction & New Media, Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University (2010–2012)
- Assistant Professor (tenure track), University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (2006–2010)
- Lecturer, Southern Methodist University (2004–2006)
- Affiliated Faculty, Public Policy Institute, Georgetown University (Spring 2004)

## Education

- Ph.D. Philosophy, Georgetown University, Washington, DC (2004)  
**Dissertation:** *Neither Tortoises nor Snakes: How to be a Conscientious Objector in the Conflict between Foundationalism and Coherentism.* Committee: Mark Lance (Advisor), Wayne Davis, William Blattner
- B.A. Philosophy, *Cum Laude*, with Departmental Honors in Philosophy, University of California, Los Angeles (1996)

## Areas of Specialization

- Epistemology
- Social & Political Thought
- Philosophy of Mind

## Areas of Concentration

- Applied Ethics (Biomedical, Business, Environmental, Public Policy)
- Logic
- Pragmatism
- Philosophy of Film

## Publications and Scholarship

### In Print

- “Epistemological Behaviorism, Nonconceptual Content, and the Given,” *Contemporary Pragmatism*. Volume 7, Number 1, June 2010 (pp. 165–189)
- Review of *The Metaphysics of Perception: Wilfrid Sellars, Perceptual Consciousness and Critical Realism* by Paul Coates (Routledge, 2007). *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*. January 2009 (<http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=15246>)
- “The Thanatoria of Soylent Green: On Reconciling the Good Life with the Good Death,” in *Bioethics at the Movies*. ed. S. Shapshay, Johns Hopkins University Press. 2009 (pp. 275–94)
- “Taking As: Experience & Judgment in the Life of Agents,” *Philosophical Explorations*, Volume 10, Issue 3. September 2007 (pp. 227–243)
- “Prodigal Epistemology: Coherence, Holism, and the Sellarsian Tradition,” in *The Self-Correcting Enterprise: Essays on Wilfrid Sellars*, ed. M.P. Wolf and M.N. Lance, Poznan Studies in Philosophy of the Sciences and Humanities, Rodopi, 2006 (pp. 197–216)
- “Situating Experience: Agency, Perception, and the Given,” *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, Volume XLIV, Spring 2006 (pp. 1–29)
- “Epistemology and the Philosophy of Cinema,” in *Film and Knowledge: Integrating Images and Ideas*, ed. K. L. Stoehr, McFarland and Company, Inc. Publishers, 2002 (pp. 141–156)

### Papers In Progress

- “The *Phronimos* says ‘Motherf\*cker’: The Ethics of Profanity” (under review)
- “The Man of Action in a World of Abstraction: Lee Marvin’s Walker in *Point Blank*” (under review)
- “Embodiment, Institutions, and Humanity”

## Presentations and Conference Participation

### Peer reviewed

- “The Man of Action in a World of Abstraction: Lee Marvin’s Walker in *Point Blank*,” National Conference of the American Culture Association (San Francisco, March 2008)
- “The Thanatoria of Soylent Green: On Reconciling the Good Life with the Good Death,” 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities (January 2007)
- “Why Our Acting Together is Unlike My Acting Alone,” a reply to Sara Rachel Chant’s “When We Act Together,” North Texas Philosophical Association Conference (April 2005)
- “Yes, but Where Did *I* Go?,” a Reply to Michael Wolf’s “Persons, Norms, and Practices,” Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Division Annual Conference (March 2005)
- “Epistemology and the Philosophy of Cinema,” the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association Annual Conference (December 2000)
- “Danish University Ethics Policies: The Struggle to Balance Two Notions of Democracy—One Step Toward Changes in Social and Cultural Norms?” (joint presentation with Tronie Rifkin) the International Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education (October 1996)

### Invited

- “Metacognition and Social Technologies,” Apprenticeship in Teaching program, Center for New Designs in Learning and Scholarship, Georgetown University (October 2011)
- “Embodiment, Institutions, and Humanity,” Coastal Carolina University, Myrtle Beach, SC (April 2010)
- “Embodiment, Institutions, and Humanity,” West Chester University, West Chester, PA (January 2010)
- “Business Ethics Workshop,” a pair of 5-hour workshops for the membership of Johnstown Area Regional Industries (June 29 & 30, 2009)
- “An Ethics Lecture for Engineers,” presentation to the Pitt-Johnstown Electrical Engineering Technology Seminar (April 2008 and February 2009)
- “Dewey, Foucault, and Mountain Cats: A Disciplinary Diagnosis of Our Own Institution,” Pitt-Johnstown Faculty Brown Bag lunch series (April 2008)
- “How Not to Argue about Global Warming: Expertise, Discourse, and Democracy,” presented at Pitt-Johnstown’s Global Warming Solution Forum (January 2008)

- “A Brief History of the Situation in Darfur and a Call to Action,” as introduction to *Darfur Diaries* (November 2007)
- “Neither God nor Master: The Anarchist Tradition as Realization of the Humanities,” Pitt-Johnstown Humanities Colloquium Series (September 2007)
- “There for the Taking: Experience and Judgment in the Life of Agents,” Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville Philosophy Department Colloquium (February 2006)
- “Martha Nussbaum’s Neo-Stoic Account of the Emotions: A Critique from the Philosophy of Mind and Moral Psychology” (joint presentation with Elisa Hurley, with Martha Nussbaum as commentator), the Georgetown University Philosophy Department Colloquium Series (May 2004)
- “Homer-sexuality: Gender, Sexuality, and Identity,” Educational Program for Undergraduates in LXR Dormitory, examining the relationship between gender and sexual identity using *The Simpsons* (March 2003)

## Teaching Experience

### University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown

*Introduction to Ethics*

*Introduction to Philosophy*

*Introduction to Logic*

*Business Ethics*

*Minds and Machines*

*American Philosophy*

*Social Philosophy*

*History of Modern Philosophy*

*Philosophy and Liberal Democracy*

*Antifoundationalism: Theory and Applications*

*Philosophy and Film*

*Tutorials:*

*Natural Law and Public Policy*

*Gender, Epistemology and Media*

*Hume on Miracles*

*Just War Theory and the War on Terror*

### Southern Methodist University

*Introduction to Philosophy*

*Business Ethics*

*Contemporary Moral Problems*

## Georgetown University Public Policy Institute

*Ethics, Values, and Public Policy* (Graduate seminar)

## Georgetown University Philosophy Department

*Introduction to Philosophy*

*Introduction to Ethics*

*Environmental Ethics*

*The Moral Dimensions of Wealth and Power*

*Queer Theory*

*Gender and Philosophy* (Graduate seminar)

*Technologies of the Self*

*Bioethics*

## Academic Honors

- Teaching, Learning, & Technology Fellow, Center for New Directions in Learning and Scholarship, Georgetown University (2011–12)
- Faculty Research Grant, Pitt-Johnstown (Summer 2007 & 2008)
- Inaugural ΑΣΑ “Professor of the Week,” Pitt-Johnstown (March 2007)
- Honoree at the ΓΦΔ “Shoot the Moon” scholarship dinner, SMU (May 2006)
- Instructor in the SMU Hilltop Scholars Program, which “provides a supportive academic and residential environment that combines the advantages and individual attention of a small college with the many social and academic opportunities of a large university” (Fall 2005)
- Honoree at the ΛΧΑ Faculty Barbeque, which “honors Southern Methodist University faculty who have served as role models inside and outside of the classroom” (April 2005)
- Honoree at the ΔΔΔ “Apple Polishing Dinner,” which “honors Southern Methodist University’s finest professors and celebrates the academic excellence of Tri-Delta Sorority” (March 2005)
- Course selected as one of 17 “top course picks” by *The Hoya*, Georgetown University’s campus newspaper—the only philosophy course to be selected (Spring 2003)

## Academic Service

- Reviewer: *American Philosophical Quarterly*, Cambridge University Press, *The Pennsylvania Geographer*, *Philosophy and Rhetoric*