

Timothy Garrick Murphy

Curriculum Vitae

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Education

BA Philosophy(1997) Baylor University

PhD Philosophy (2007) University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Dissertation: *Structuralism and Mathematical Existence*

Committee: Geoffrey Hellman (advisor), Byeong-uk Yi, Michael Kac, William Hanson

Abstract: Most philosophical discussions of mathematics assume a close relationship between mathematical existence and mathematical truth. My dissertation questions this relationship. I argue that the objectivity of mathematics does not rely on abstract existence and that a broadly structuralist account of mathematics offers a unified view of mathematical truth that is consistent with a variety of conflicting views on mathematical ontology.

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Logic and Mathematics

Areas of Competence

Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology, Metaphysics, Bioethics

Employment

SUNY Potsdam, Associate Professor (August 2018 - present)

SUNY Potsdam, Assistant Professor (August 2012 - July 2018)

Fort Hays State University, Temporary Assistant Professor (August 2007-July 2012)

University of St. Thomas, Adjunct Instructor (August 2006-May 2007)

Mankato State University, Adjunct Instructor (January 2005-December 2005)

University of Minnesota, Instructor (May 2002-January 2003)

University of Minnesota, Teaching Assistant (August 1999-May 2002)

Publications

Journal Articles

“An Encoding Approach to Ante Rem Structuralism” in *Synthese* 5953–5976 (2021).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-019-02185-x>

“Does Critical Thinking Vary According to Culture?” in *Teaching Philosophy* Vol. 38, Issue 4 (December 2015) pgs. 399-426.

Book Reviews

Invited review of *A Pocket Guide to Critical Thinking* by Richard Epstein, in *Teaching Philosophy* Vol. 40, Issue 1 (March 2017) pgs. 119-122

Review of *A Numerate Life: A Mathematician Explores the Vagaries of Life, His Own and Probably Yours* by John Allen Paulos, in *Metapsychology Online Reviews* Vol. 20, Issue 13 (March 29, 2016)
http://metapsychology.mentalhelp.net/poc/view_doc.php?type=book&id=7615&cn=391

Review of *Being Amoral: Psychopathy and Moral Incapacity*, edited by Thomas Schramme, in *Metapsychology Online Reviews* Vol. 19, Issue 31 (July 28, 2015)
http://metapsychology.mentalhelp.net/poc/view_doc.php?type=book&id=7435&cn=135

Awards

SUNY Potsdam President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching (2018)

FHSU Mortar Board “Top Professor” teaching award (2011)

University of Minnesota Swenson-Kierkegaard Fellowship (2004)

University of Minnesota Graduate School Fellowship (1997)

Conference Presentations

“What Does It Mean for Mathematical Statements to be Literally True?” at the Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference (Denver, CO - October 2011)

“Teaching Ethics with Games” at the the Summer Institute of Distance Learning and Instructional Technology (Overland Park, KS - August 2011)

“Critical Thinking in the Multicultural Classroom” at the National Association of Multicultural Education Region VII Spring Conference (Kansas City, MO - April 2011)

“Cultural Differences in Cognition and their Relevance to Teaching Critical Thinking” at the American Association of Philosophy Teachers Midwest Workshop on Teaching and Learning in Philosophy (Muncie, IN - March 2011)

“Meeting the Challenges of International Online Education” at the Summer Institute of Distance Learning and Instructional Technology (Overland Park, KS - July 2009)

Refereeing and Commenting

Commentator on Klaus Ladstaetter's "Liar-Like Paradox and Metalanguage Features" at 31st Annual Meeting of the Kansas Philosophical Society (Wichita, KS - February 2012)

Referee for Kansas Philosophical Society (Fall 2011)

Referee for Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference (Summer 2009)

Commentator on David Barnett's "Vague Entailment" at Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference (Denver, CO - October 2008)

Works in Progress

"Is Group Work Fair?" applies standards fairness in grading developed by philosophy Darryl Close to different practices of grading group work. I conclude that many commonplace ways of assigning grades to students on group projects are unfair to the students, and suggest how grading practices can be adjusted to address these problems. Completed first draft currently being revised in preparation for submission to *Teaching Philosophy*.

"2-Dimensional Semantics and Mathematical Structuralism" describes how 2-dimensional analyses of modal concepts bear on structural approaches to mathematical ontology. Draft in progress.

Classes Taught

Introduction to Logic (SUNY Potsdam, University of Minnesota)

Introduction to Symbolic Logic (SUNY Potsdam)

Introduction to Philosophy (SUNY Potsdam, Mankato State, University of St. Thomas)

Philosophy of the Liberal Arts (SUNY Potsdam)

Everyday Ethics (SUNY Potsdam)

Moral Issues in the Mental Health Professions (SUNY Potsdam)

New Frontiers in Bioethics (SUNY Potsdam)

First Year Critical Thinking Seminar: Everyday Ethics (SUNY Potsdam)

Philosophy of Science (SUNY Potsdam, University of Minnesota)

Philosophy of Mind (SUNY Potsdam)

Seminar: Philosophy of Mathematics (SUNY Potsdam)

Theory of Knowledge (SUNY Potsdam)

History of 20th Century Analytic Philosophy (SUNY Potsdam)

Metaphysics (SUNY Potsdam)

Seminar: Truth (SUNY Potsdam)

Introduction to Ethics (Fort Hays State University)

Contemporary Moral Problems (University of Minnesota)

Bioethics (Fort Hays State University)

Ethical Issues in the Professions and Business (Fort Hays State University)

Philosophy of the Self (Fort Hays State University)

Introduction to Graduate Liberal Studies (Fort Hays State University)

Ways of Knowing in Comparative Perspective (Fort Hays State University)

Service

At SUNY Potsdam

Committee assignments

Philosophy Department Personnel Committee (Fall 2012 - present)

NEH Faculty Development Committee (Fall 2013 - present)

Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee (Fall 2014 - present)

Potsdam Pathways Curriculum Committee (Fall 2019 - Spring 2021)

General Education Thinking Scientifically Working Group (Fall 2017)

Faculty Senate Academic Policies, Standards and Advising Committee (Fall 2017 - Spring 2021)

Faculty Senate Executive Council (as Chair of APSA) (Fall 2018 - Fall 2019)

Diversity in Action Coalition Subcommittee on Curriculum, Policy, and Faculty/Staff Advocacy
(Spring 2016 - Fall 2017)

Philosophy Department Hiring Committee (Spring 2013, Spring 2019, Summer 2018)

Department representative to Faculty Senate (Fall 2013 - Spring 2016)

Student Initiated Inter-Departmental Major Committee (Fall 2013 - Fall 2015)

Other college-related service

Chair of Philosophy Department (Fall 2020 - present)

Co-advisor of Philosophy Forum (Fall 2013 - present)

Advisor for Phi Sigma Tau philosophy honor society (Fall 2014 - present)

Lead author of Philosophy Department program review self-study (Fall 2016)

Organizer for Philosophy Department external review committee site visit (Spring 2017)

Faculty mentor for New Faculty Workshop Series (2016 - 2018)

Co-ordinator for Exploring Big Ideas FIG (Fall 2016)

Summer academic advisor (Summer 2016, 2015, 2014)

Developed and delivered new online PHIL 102 course (Summer 2016)

Student tutorial advisor, Symbolic Logic (Spring 2016)

Co-ordinator for Exploring the Liberal Arts FIG (Fall 2015)

Student tutorial advisor, Introduction to Conditionals (Spring 2015)

Delegate to SUNY Arts and Humanities Network of Excellence Fall Charette (October 2014)

At Fort Hays State University

Attended Collegiate Learning Assessment's "CLA in the Classroom" workshop on assessment of student critical thinking (January 2012)

Contributed to development and revision of FHSU philosophy department assessment procedures, focusing particularly on assessment of critical thinking (2011)

Served as faculty advisor for the FHSU chapter of Mortar Board (2011)

Attended workshops offered by FHSU's Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning Technologies. Workshop topics included service learning, teaching with Blackboard, collaboration and communication, Web 2.0, online course design and copyright issues (2007-2011)

Served as advisor for independent studies in logic, philosophy of language and history of modern philosophy (2008-2010)

Developed new versions of MLS required courses *Introduction to Graduate Studies* and *Ways of Knowing in Comparative Perspective* for both online and classroom implementation (2009-2010)

Participated in regular philosophy department seminars for high school students (2007-2011)

At University of Minnesota

Attended week-long seminar in Teaching with Writing offered by the Center for Writing at University of Minnesota Twin Cities (2005)

Graduate Coursework

Logic and Mathematics

Symbolic Logic I	William Hanson
Symbolic Logic II	Michael Kac
Symbolic Logic III	Geoffrey Hellman
Philosophy of Logic	William Hanson
Philosophy of Mathematics	Geoffrey Hellman
Modal Logic	William Hanson
Mathematical Logic I	Wayne Richter (Math Dept.)
Mathematical Logic II	Wayne Richter (Math Dept.)
Seminar in Philosophy of Mathematics (audit)	Geoffrey Hellman
Seminar in Philosophy of Logic (audit)	William Hanson
Seminar in Philosophy of Language (audit)	Byeong-uk Yi

Philosophy and History of Science

Scientific Explanation	Ken Waters
Seminar in Philosophy of Science	Helen Longino
Seminar in Philosophy of Science	Ron Giere
Darwinian Revolution	John Beatty

Ethics

Ethics Survey Norman Dahl
Seminar in Medical Ethics Jeffrey Kahn

History of Philosophy

Descartes Douglas Lewis
Hume Douglas Lewis
Plato Sandra Peterson