

*CURRICULUM VITAE*  
CHARLES JOSHUA HORN

University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point  
Department of Philosophy  
1801 Fourth Avenue  
418 Collins Classroom Center  
Stevens Point, WI. 54481-3897  
[Joshua.Horn@uwsp.edu](mailto:Joshua.Horn@uwsp.edu)

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:**

17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE:**

Philosophy of Religion  
Metaphysics  
Social and Political Philosophy/Philosophy of Law  
Philosophy of Mind/Cognitive Science  
Ancient Philosophy

**EDUCATION:**

|  |      |
|--|------|
| University of Kentucky                                 |      |
| Ph.D. Philosophy                                       | 2013 |
| Cognitive Science Advanced Certification               | 2011 |
| University of Kentucky                                 |      |
| M.A. Philosophy  | 2009 |
| Morehead State University                              |      |
| B.A. Philosophy, Government ( <i>Magna cum Laude</i> ) | 2007 |

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Professor, Department of Philosophy           | University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point<br>2025—Present |
| Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy | University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point<br>2019—2024    |
| Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy | University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point<br>2013—2019    |
| Teaching Assistant, Department of Philosophy  | University of Kentucky<br>2007—2013                    |
| Instructor, Department of Philosophy          | Eastern Kentucky University<br>2009—2013               |
| Instructor, Department of Philosophy          | Morehead State University<br>Fall 2009, Fall 2010      |

**PUBLICATIONS:**

**Books and Edited Volumes:**

1. *The Last of Us and Philosophy: Look for the Light*, Ed. Charles Joshua Horn  
Wiley Blackwell, 2024

**Articles:**

1. "Leibniz, Gottfried: Jurisprudence"  
*The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*  
 In Progress, Forthcoming, 2026
  
2. "Solving the Puzzle of Cheating: Honor and Integrity in Hyrule"  
*The Legend of Zelda and Philosophy*, Ed. Luke Cuddy  
 Wiley Blackwell, Forthcoming 2025
  
3. "Divine Obligations as Theodicy in Leibniz's Jurisprudence and Metaphysical Theology"  
*Religions Special Issue: Exploring Leibniz's Religion and Philosophy of Religion: Essays in Honor of Maria Rosa Antognazza (1964–2023)*, Ed. Lloyd Strickland, Vol. 15: 884, 2024  
 pp. 1—12
  
4. "Morality and Self-Deception in *The Last of Us*"  
*The Last of Us and Philosophy*, Ed. Charles Joshua Horn  
 Wiley Blackwell, 2024  
 pp. 113—120
  
5. "*God of War* as Philosophy: Prophecy, Fate, and Freedom"  
*The Palgrave Handbook of Popular Culture as Philosophy*  
 Palgrave, 2023  
 pp. 1—17
  
6. "The Ontological Interpretation of Leibniz's Account of Compossibility"  
*Southwest Philosophy Review*, Vol. 39, No. 1, 2023  
 pp. 59—68
  
7. "Leibniz, Gottfried: Modal Metaphysics"  
*The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*  
[Leibniz: Modal Metaphysics | Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy \(utm.edu\)](https://utm.edu/leibniz-modal-metaphysics), 2023
  
8. "Leibniz and the Labyrinth of Divine Freedom" in  
*The Labyrinths of Leibniz's Philosophy*, Ed. Aleksandra Horowska  
 Peter Lang Verlag, 2022  
 pp. 69—92
  
9. "*The Last of Us* as Moral Philosophy: Teleological Particularism and Why Joel is Not a Villain"  
*The Palgrave Handbook of Popular Culture as Philosophy*  
 Palgrave, 2021  
 pp. 1—17
  
10. "Leibniz's Contemporary Modal Theodicy"  
*Quaestiones Disputatae*, Vol. 7. No. 2  
 Catholic University of America Press, 2017  
 pp. 97—119
  
11. "Leibniz's Ripples: The Continuing Relevance of the Last Great Polymath"  
*Quaestiones Disputatae*, Vol. 7. No. 2  
 Catholic University of America Press, 2017  
 pp. 3—7

12. "Leibniz's Stoic and Spinozistic Justification for Eternal Damnation" in *The Concept of Hell*,  
Eds. Benjamin McCraw and Robert Arp  
Palgrave Macmillan, 2015 pp. 99—112
13. "Identity Across Space and Time: Bioshock Infinite and Theories of Transworld  
Individuality" in *Bioshock and Philosophy*, Ed. Luke Cuddy  
Wiley Blackwell, 2015 pp. 76—85
14. "The Individual's Place in Paradise: The Limits, Promise, and Role of Reason in Modern  
Conceptions of Utopia" in *The Individual and Utopia: A Multidisciplinary Study of  
Humanity and Perfection*, Eds. Clint Jones and Cameron Ellis  
Ashgate Publishing, 2015 pp. 11—25
15. "Dreams and Possible Worlds: Inception and the Metaphysics of Modality"  
Chapter 15 in *Inception and Philosophy*  
Wiley Blackwell Publishing, 2011 pp. 215—230
16. "The Triforce and the Doctrine of the Mean"  
Chapter 17 in *The Legend of Zelda and Philosophy*  
Open Court Publishing, 2008 pp. 211—219

#### **Proceedings and Reviews:**

1. Review of Clare Carlisle, *Spinoza's Religion: A New Reading of the Ethics*. Princeton University  
Press.  
*International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*  
92:2 (October 2022) pp. 121—125
2. Review of Lloyd Strickland, *Proofs of God in Early Modern Europe: An Anthology*. Baylor  
University Press.  
*International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*  
85:3 (June 2019) pp. 369—371
3. Review of Richard Arthur, *Monads, Composition, and Force: Ariadnean Threads through Leibniz's  
Labyrinth*. Oxford University Press.  
*Review of Metaphysics*  
72:4 (June 2019) pp. 783—784
4. Review of Jill Graper Hernandez, *Early Modern Women and the Problem of Evil: Atrocity and  
Theodicy*. Routledge.  
*International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*  
83:2 (April 2018) pp. 213—216
5. Review of Lloyd Strickland, *Leibniz on God and Religion: A Reader*. Bloomsbury Academic  
Press.  
*International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*  
80:3 (December 2016) pp. 321—323

6. "Leibniz and Impossible Ideas in the Divine Intellect"  
*Vorträge des X. Internationalen Leibniz Kongresses*, Ed. Wenchao Li  
Hannover: Olms, 2016 Band IV, pp. 539—551
7. Review of Gonzalo Rodriguez-Pereyra, *Leibniz's Principle of Identity of Indiscernibles*. Oxford University Press.  
*Journal of the History of Philosophy*  
53:4 (October 2015) pp. 787—788
8. Review of Michael Shapiro, *War Crimes, Atrocity, and Justice*. Polity Press.  
*Journal for the Study of Peace and Conflict*  
(2015) pp. 155—156
9. Review of Michael Griffin, *Leibniz, God, and Necessity*. Cambridge University Press.  
*Review of Metaphysics*  
66:4 (June 2013) pp. 836—837
10. "Rethinking the Goal of Philosophy: A Phenomenological Reading of Plato's Cave"  
*Proceedings of the Metaphysics World Congress* pp. 1045—1053
11. "Leibniz: Naturalism and Eudaemonism" in Terence Irwin's *Development of Ethics*  
*Philosophical Forum*  
Wiley Blackwell Publishing 2011 42:3 p. 298
12. "Kant's Political Philosophy: An Evolution of Social Contract Theory"  
*Proceedings of the Southeast Philosophy Congress*, Volume 2 pp. 95—103  
Clayton State University Philosophy Department, 2009

#### **INVITED LECTURES (Including Future Commitments)**

1. "Cheating and Integrity in Games" Faculty Forum  
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point November 2024
2. "When Robots Rule the World" Panel Discussion  
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point May 2023
3. "The Case for Robot Rights"—Community Engagement Series  
Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point, Wisconsin October 2022
4. "Divine Foreknowledge and Human Freedom"—LIFE Presentation  
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point November 2021
5. "Leibniz's Theory of Natural Law"—Faculty Forum  
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point October 2019
6. "The Nature of Free Will"—Dinner and Discourse  
Amherst Opera House August 2019

7. "Ethics and Conscious Machines"—Community Lecture Series  
Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point, Wisconsin December 2018
8. "What's Love Got to do with It? Leibniz on God and Creation"—Faculty Forum  
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point October 2018
9. "Virtual Virtue: Cultivating Morals Through Video Games"—LIFE Presentation  
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point October 2016
10. Leibniz on Possible Worlds and Divine Freedom"—Faculty Forum  
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point November 2016
11. "Virtual Virtue: Cultivating Morals Through Video Games"—University Evening Address  
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point October 2016
12. "Mythos and Logos: The Role of Mythology in Antiquity"  
Arbor Vitae-Woodruff School February 2014
13. "Leibniz's Theory of Compossibility: Escaping from Spinoza's Precipice"  
Georgetown College September 2012
14. "The Possibility of Possible Worlds: A Story of Radical Philosophers"  
Morehead State University February 2012
15. "Locke's *Second Treatise*"  
Morehead State University October 2009

**CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS: (Including Future Commitments)**

1. "What's Love Got to Do with It? Leibniz on Divine Benevolence and Creation"  
Indiana Philosophical Association  
Muncie, Indiana April 2025
2. "Philosophy as Wonder: Teaching Philosophy with Intentional Engagement"  
American Association of Philosophy Teachers  
Westerville, Ohio July 2024
3. "*Obligatio* in Leibniz's Jurisprudence and Theodicy"  
Society for Philosophy of Religion  
Hilton Head, South Carolina March 2024
4. "Prophecy, Fate, and Freedom in *God of War*"  
Popular Culture Association South  
New Orleans, Louisiana September 2023
5. "Prophecy, Fate, and Freedom in *God of War*"  
Kentucky Philosophical Association  
Owensboro, Kentucky April 2023

6. "Revisiting Leibniz's Account of Compossibility"  
Southwest Philosophical Society  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
November 2022
7. "Leibniz's Theory of Natural Law"  
Kentucky Philosophical Association  
Morehead, Kentucky  
April 2022
8. "Free Will and Moral Responsibility in Video Games"  
Science Fiction, Popular Cultures  
Kona, Hawaii  
September 2018
9. "Can Leibniz's God Love Purely Possible Objects?"  
Society for Philosophy of Religion  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
March 2018
10. "Leibniz and Impossible Ideas in the Divine Intellect"  
X International Leibniz Congress  
Hanover, Germany  
July 2016
11. "Leibniz's Contemporary Modal Theodicy"  
Continuing Relevance of Leibniz, Franciscan University  
Steubenville, Ohio  
April 2016
12. "Know Your Role: A Defense of Joel's Abandonment of Humanity in *The Last of Us*"  
Popular Culture Association  
Seattle, Washington  
March 2016
13. "Leibniz's Stoic and Spinozistic Justification for Eternal Damnation"  
Society for Philosophy of Religion  
San Antonio, Texas  
February 2016
14. "Leibniz's Stoic and Spinozistic Justification for Eternal Damnation"  
Wisconsin Philosophical Association  
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point  
April 2015
15. "The Ontological Interpretation of Compossibility"  
Spinoza-Leibniz Workshop  
Michigan State University  
January 2015
16. "Skills Over Content"  
AAPT Session of the Eastern Meeting of the American Philosophical Association  
Baltimore, Maryland  
December 2013
17. "Hope for Economic Liberation: Social Media and the New Capitalist Revolution"  
Fifth Biennial International Herbert Marcuse Society  
Lexington, Kentucky  
November 2013

18. "Theodicean Solutions to Leibniz's Problem of Contingency"  
Metaphysics 2012 World Congress  
Rome, Italy  
November 2012
19. "Rethinking the Goal of Philosophy: A Phenomenological Reading of Plato's Cave"  
Metaphysics 2012 World Congress  
Rome, Italy  
November 2012
20. "The Necessity of Freedom and the Possibility for the Good Life"  
Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association  
Seattle, Washington  
April 2012
21. "The Passions of the Soulless: What Spinoza Can Tell Us About *True Blood*"  
Far West Popular Culture and American Culture Association  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
February 2012
22. "Leibniz, Lewis, and the Metaphysics of Modality"  
Alabama Philosophical Society  
Pensacola Beach, Florida  
September 2011
23. "Leibniz and the Possibility of Worlds: Commensurability and the Principle of the Best"  
Florida Philosophical Association  
Daytona Beach, Florida  
November 2010
24. "Optimization and Maximization: A Leibnizian Response to  
Rowe's 'No Best World' Thesis"  
Alabama Philosophical Society  
Pensacola Beach, Florida  
September 2010
25. "The Aristotelian Roots of Leibnizian Panorganicism"  
Kentucky Philosophical Association  
Eastern Kentucky University  
April 2010
26. "The Cause for Rejecting Causation"  
Gonzaga University Graduate Student Philosophy Conference  
Spokane, Washington  
April 2009
27. "A New Theory of Belief: Constitution and Consciousness"  
Louisiana State University Graduate Student Philosophy Conference  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
April 2009
28. Kant's Political Philosophy: An Evolution of Social Contract Theory  
Southeast Philosophy Congress at Clayton State University  
Morrow, Georgia  
February 2009

**INVITED COMMENTARY:**

1. Invited Commentary on “Leibniz and the Problem of Regret”  
Jeremy Krzypek, Ohio Dominican University  
Society for Philosophy of Religion March 2025
2. Invited Commentary on “Saying Farewell to God”  
Scott Davison, Morehead State University  
Society for Philosophy of Religion February 2023
3. Invited Commentary on “Neither Necessitarianism nor Sheer Will: Leibniz on Divine Freedom and Wisdom”  
Juan Garcia, Wingate University  
Society for Philosophy of Religion March 2022
4. Invited Commentary on “Can a Thomist Accept the Possibility for an Afterlife for Non-Human Animals?”  
Michael Potts, Methodist University  
Society for Philosophy of Religion March 2017
5. Invited Commentary on “A Leibnizian Paradox: Expressing the Universe Through and Individual Substance”  
Wisconsin Philosophical Association  
University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point April 2015
6. Invited Commentary on “Relief Philosophy: To Sacrifice or Not to Sacrifice”  
Julian Gonzalez, St. Edwards University  
University of Kentucky Graduate Conference April 2008
7. Invited Commentary on “Basic Rights and Autonomy: Thinking About Global Poverty”  
Timothy Weidel, Loyola University  
University of Kentucky Graduate Conference April 2008

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: (Including Future Commitments)**

- American Association of Philosophy Teachers, “Philosophy Amplified”  
Otterbein University July 24—28, 2024
- Institute for the History of Philosophy, “Leibniz’s Philosophy of Law”  
Emory University May 21—30, 2019

**UNIVERSITY SERVICE:****DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY:**

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| Merit Evaluation Committee                    | 2013—2014               |
| Student Awards Committee                      | 2013—2024               |
| By-Law Committee                              | 2022—2023               |
| Philosophical Society Adviser                 | 2013—2021               |
| Search and Screen Committee                   | 2013—2014,<br>2014—2016 |
| Chair, COLS Dean’s Faculty Advisory Committee | 2014—2015               |



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|--|-------------------------|
| COLS Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee | 2013—2014,<br>2020—2021 |
| Philosophy Coordinator                 | 2019—2020               |
| Law and Justice Coordinator            | 2021—2024               |
| Pre-Law Advisor                        | 2022—2024               |

**UNIVERSITY:**

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Department Review Subcommittee    | 2014—2016 |
| Marketing and Recruitment Liaison | 2019—2020 |
| Assessment Subcommittee           | 2022—2023 |
| Faculty Mediation Subcommittee    | 2024—2025 |

**CLASSES TAUGHT:****University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point (Including Future Commitments)***Lower Division Courses:*

Introduction to Philosophy  
Honors introduction to Philosophy  
Contemporary Moral Problems  
American Politics (In Political Science Department)

*Upper Division Courses:*

Metaphysics  
Philosophy of Religion  
Social and Political Philosophy  
Symbolic Logic  
Ancient Greek Philosophy  
17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy  
Ethics and Medicine  
Philosophy in a Popular Mode: Science Fiction  
Philosophy of Law  
Philosophy of Death  
Special Topics: Leibniz  
Special Topics: Free Speech and the First Amendment  
Politics of Terrorism (In Political Science Department)  
Philosophy Capstone: Paradoxes and the Limits of Reason  
Philosophy Capstone: Philosophy of Religion

*Independent Studies:*

Divine Freedom  
Politics and German Idealism  
Spinoza and the Pantheism Controversy  
Logic and Law  
Philosophy of Terrorism  
Metaphysical Determinism and Legal Responsibility  
Leibniz's Metaphysics  
Philosophy of Horror

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY:**

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Peer Review, <i>History of Philosophy Quarterly</i> , <i>Religions</i>  | 2024      |
| Society for Philosophy of Religion, Vice President  | 2024—2025 |
| Society for Philosophy of Religion, Executive Committee   | 2022—2024 |
| Guest Editor, <i>Quaestiones Disputatae</i>   | 2017      |
| Peer Review, <i>Cogent Humanities</i>   | 2015—2016 |
| Panel Chair, “Leibniz and the Nature of God” Leibniz <i>Gesellschaft</i><br>X International Leibniz Congress  | 2016      |
| Peer Review, <i>Polity Press</i>  | 2015      |
| Organizer of the 2015 Wisconsin Philosophical Association<br>University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point<br>(Worked with students to develop their philosophy presentations, wrote and received grants, refereed papers, organized the event for UW faculty and students.) | 2015      |
| Referee for the Central States Philosophical Association  | 2013—2014 |
| Chair of the Leibniz Colloquium at the Eastern meeting of the<br>American Philosophical Association   | 2012      |
| Teaching Workshop<br>Sponsored by the American Philosophical Association<br>(Led a workshop teaching other philosophy instructors how to prioritize developing critical thinking and oral and written communication skills over content mastery.)                     | 2011      |

**AWARDS AND HONORS:***CITL Teaching Professional Development Grant**University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point*

2024

\$500—Awarded to attend AAPT Conference/Workshop at Otterbein University.

*University Excellence in Teaching Award**University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point*

2019—2020

*Undergraduate Education Initiative Grant**University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point*

2015 & 2014 (\$3045)—Awarded to develop and institute a “Philosophy Summer Camp” for Stevens Point Area junior and high school students. The camp was designed to introduce students to philosophy through popular culture. The theme of the camp in 2015 was slated to be on “Video Games and Philosophy”. In 2014, the theme was slated to be on “Star Wars and Philosophy.”

2013 (\$315)—Awarded to travel with students to Madison for the meeting of the Wisconsin Philosophical Association. Several of our students presented their work at the conference.

*College of Arts and Sciences Certificate of Outstanding Teaching**University of Kentucky*

2013 (\$500)—To recognize excellence in undergraduate instruction by Teaching Assistants, the College of Arts & Sciences established the Certificate for Outstanding Teaching award. Fifteen Teaching Assistants, five per area (Math/Sciences, Social Sciences, Humanities), receive the certificate and monetary award.

*Department of Philosophy Annual Essay Prize**University of Kentucky*

2012 (\$500)—Awarded for my essay “The Ontological Interpretation of Compossibility”

*Distinguished Teaching Award**University of Kentucky*

2012 (\$500)—Awarded to the best graduate student teacher in the department of philosophy. One award is given per year out of approximately 25 graduate students.

*Faculty All Star Award**Eastern Kentucky University*

2012—Award nominated and chosen by students for overall teaching excellence.

**LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY:**

French (Reading)

Latin (Reading)

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

Leibniz Society of North America

Society for the Philosophy of Religion

**REFERENCES:**

Available upon request.

Updated March 2025