

Freya Möbus

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Loyola University Chicago, Assistant Professor of Philosophy 8/2019 – present

EDUCATION

Cornell University 8/2013 – 5/2019

PhD in Philosophy

Dissertation Title: Socratic therapy for the criminal, the glutton, and the coward.

Committee: Tad Brennan (chair), Rachana Kamtekar, Charles Brittain

Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn 2009-2012

MA in Philosophy

Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn 2006-2009

BA in Philosophy and German Language and Literature

VISITING SCHOLAR

King's College London Spring 2017

Harvard University Fall 2016

University of Toronto 2011-2013

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Socratic psychology of wrongdoing and philosophical correction in Plato's early dialogues.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK MANUSCRIPT (PEER REVIEWED):

1. **"Socrates' Attack on Rhetoric: The Psychology of Insults in Plato's *Gorgias*."** In press with *Bloomsbury Publishing*, expected publication date 1/2027.

I argue that Socrates' overlooked insults in the *Gorgias* are central to rethinking both his critique of rhetoric and his philosophical practice across the dialogues.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES:

1. **"Rhetoricians and Catamites in Plato's *Gorgias*."** *Epoché: A Journal for the History of Philosophy*. 2025.

2. **“Socrates on Cookery and Rhetoric.”** *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* 107(1): 1–28. 2025.
3. **“Division and Animal Sacrifice in Plato’s *Statesman*.”** (co-authored with Justin Vlasits). *Archai: The Origins of Western Thought* (34): 2-27. 2024.
4. **“Socratic Leadership.”** *International Journal of Applied Philosophy* (36.2): 263-281. 2023.
5. **“Can flogging make us less ignorant? Socrates on bodily punishment.”** *Ancient Philosophy* (43.1): 51-68. 2023.

PEER-REVIEWED CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES:

1. **“Socratic Motivational Intellectualism.”** *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Socrates*. Smith, N; Jones, R.; Sharma, R. (eds.). New York: Bloomsbury, 205–228. 2024.
2. **“Why do itches itch? Bodily pain in Socratic moral psychology.”** *Emotions in Plato*. Candiotta, L.; Renaut, O. (eds.). Leiden / Boston: Brill, 61–82. 2020.

BOOK REVIEW (INVITED):

1. **Review of Nicholas Smith’s “Socrates on Self-Improvement.”** *Ancient Philosophy* (43): 277-282. 2023.

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY AND SCHOLARLY COMMENTARY (EDITORIAL REVIEW):

1. **“Tidying up with Socrates.”** *Philosophy Now* (8/2019), *The Montréal Review* (3/2019), *Times Union* (3/22/2019).
2. **“How inclusive and accessible is your statement on inclusion and accessibility?”** *Inside Higher Ed* (10/2020), *APA Blog* (10/2020).

WORK IN PROGRESS

1. **“Socratic Insults.”** Article in preparation for submission to *Socratic Conversational Epistemology: Essays in Honor of Nicholas D. Smith*. Deretic, I. and Araujo, C. (eds.). De Gruyter’s Socratic Studies Series.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Socratic Insults
International Society of Socratic Studies
American Philosophical Association, Eastern Meeting 2. Rhetoric as False Friendship in the <i>Gorgias</i>
Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy Workshop, University of Chicago 3. Rhetoricians and Catamites in the <i>Gorgias</i>
Ancient Philosophy Society, Villanova University | <p>1/2026</p> <p>11/2025</p> <p>4/2025</p> |
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4. **The Psychological Benefits of Socrates' Insults in the *Gorgias*** 4/2025
48th Ancient Philosophy Workshop, University of Virginia
5. **Rhetoric as *Kolakeia* in the *Gorgias*** 12/2024
Young Scholars of the Midwest in Ancient Philosophy, Online
6. ***Kolakeia* and *Eunoia* in the *Gorgias*** 3/2024
Plato on the Virtues Workshop, Penn State University
7. **Division and Animal Sacrifice in Plato's *Statesman*** 06/2023
West Coast Plato Workshop, Northern Arizona University
- What makes Speeches so delicious? Socrates on Rhetoric in the *Gorgias***
8. Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, APA Central Meeting 02/2023
9. History of Philosophy Roundtable, Loyola University Chicago 11/2022
10. **Three Socratic Lessons in Business Leadership** 06/2022
Plato 2022, Online Conference
- Socrates on Food and Eating**
11. Ancient Philosophy Society, Penn State University 04/2022
12. American Philosophical Association, Central Meeting 02/2022
13. **Socratic Therapy for the Glutton.** 04/2021
American Philosophical Association, Pacific Meeting
14. **Disrupt, unclutter, innovate. Why Google and Apple hire Socratic Leaders.**
Rethinking Upper-Division Courses for Non-Majors, 01/2021
American Philosophical Association, Eastern Meeting
- Socratic Therapy for the Glutton.**
15. Plato West Coast Workshop, Lewis and Clark College 09/2020
16. American Philosophical Association, Pacific Meeting 04/2020
(This meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19)
17. **Socratic Leadership.** 02/2020
Teaching Hub Poster Presentation
American Philosophical Association, Central Meeting
18. **Comments on Wenjin Liu, "The Fabric of Akrasia in *Prot.* 351-360."** 01/2020
American Philosophical Association, Eastern Meeting
19. **Can Flogging Make Us Smarter? Socrates on Reformative Punishment.** 10/2018
Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Christopher Newport University
20. **Why Do Itches Itch? Bodily Pain in Socratic Moral Psychology.**
41st Ancient Philosophy Workshop, University of Florida 2/2018
American Philosophical Association, Central Meeting 2/2018

21. **Emotions and Appetites in the Socratic Dialogues.** 4/2017
Emotions in Plato, University of Edinburgh
22. **Socrates on Punishment.**
New Perspectives on Plato's Philosophy, UFABC, São Paulo 6/2016
Graduate Conference in Philosophy of Mind, University at Albany 4/2016
23. **The Unemotional "Emotions" in Aristotle.** 3/2016
The 2nd IIFs-UNAM Philosophy Graduate Conference, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
24. **Rethinking Emotions in Aristotle.** 11/2015
The 10th Annual Mark L. Shapiro Graduate Philosophy Conference, Brown University
25. **Comments on David Kaufman, "Seneca and Epictetus on the Pre-Emotions of the Wise Man."** 9/2015
New Perspectives on Stoicism, Cornell University

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

1. **The Sujack Award for Master Teachers**, Loyola University Chicago 03/2026
(College of Arts and Sciences' highest teaching honor; one of four Master Teacher recipients)
2. **Kreeger Wolf Visiting Professor Teaching Fellowship**, Northwestern University Fall 2026
(offered; declined due to LUC contractual teaching limitations)
3. **The Ancient Philosophy Society Diversity Prize** 4/2025
(awarded for the best paper, blind reviewed, by a scholar from an underrepresented group in the discipline.)
4. **Research Support Grant**, Loyola University Chicago 09/2022
(total amount awarded \$3,739.00)
5. **Teaching Excellence Award: James Slevin Assignment Sequence Prize** Fall 2017
(awarded each semester to one graduate student for the best assignment sequence assigned in a first-year seminar)
6. **Norman Malcolm Fellowship**, Cornell University Spring 2017
(awarded each year to one graduate student)
7. **Cornell Graduate School Conference Travel Grant** 2/2016, 2/2017, 2/2018
8. **Sage School of Philosophy Graduate Fellowship** 2013-2014/ 2016-2017

LANGUAGES

English (fluent)

German (first language)

Ancient Greek (reading knowledge)

Latin (reading knowledge)

French (reading knowledge)

Spanish (reading knowledge)

Intensive Latin Summer Class, University of California, Berkeley Summer 2014

Graecum (National Certificate in Ancient Greek), University of Cologne Summer 2010

REVIEW ACTIVITIES

Cambridge University Press; Ancient Philosophy; Epoché: A Journal for the History of Philosophy; Ancient Philosophy Today: DIALOGOI; Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie; History of Philosophy & Logical Analysis; Classical Philology.

TEACHING

At Loyola University Chicago:

PHIL 304: *History of Ancient Philosophy* (Fall 2019, Spring 2023, Spring 2025, Fall 2025)

PHIL 401: *Graduate Seminar: Plato, Socrates, and the Task of Philosophy* (Fall 2024)

PHIL 401: *Graduate Seminar: Socrates' Criticism of Rhetoricians* (Spring 2023)

PHIL 130: *Philosophy and Persons* (Spring 2020, 2021, 2022, 2024, 2026)

PHIL 310: *Issues in Philosophy of Human Nature* (Fall 2020)

PHIL 401: *Graduate Seminar: Plato's Early Dialogues* (Fall 2020)

At Cornell University:

Discussions of Justice: Democracy Now Fall 2018

What Does It Mean to Be Human? Ancient, Medieval, Contemporary Readings Fall 2018

Heidegger and Arendt on the Human Condition Spring 2018

Explanation of Human Action. Introduction to Moral Psychology Fall 2017

Auburn Correctional Facility & Five Points Correctional Facility:

What Does It Mean to Be Human? Ancient, Medieval, Contemporary Readings Fall 2018

A Philosopher's Guide to the Galaxy. Philosophy and Science Fiction Summer 2016
Co-taught with August Faller

TEACHING CERTIFICATES AND TRAININGS

CIRTL, Online Learning and Teaching, nine-week course Summer 2020

CIRTL, Diversity in the College Classroom, semester-long course Spring 2019

Assisting Students in Distress, Workshop, Cornell	Fall 2017
Teaching Writing, six-week course, Cornell	Fall 2017
CIRTL Certificate, The College Classroom, semester-long course	Spring 2017
Citizen Schools Training to prepare to teach at Orchard Gardens Middle School, MA	Fall 2016

STUDENT ADVISING

- Member of MA Thesis Committee for Aziz Alfaiakawi (LUC)
- Chair of MA Thesis Committee for Joshua Hinchie (LUC)
- Member of MA Thesis Committee for Rebecca Caithamer (LUC)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND OUTREACH

National & Professional

- APA Committee on Teaching of Philosophy, Member 7/2021 - 2025
(Reviewer, National Teaching Awards and Grants: APA Teaching Excellence Award, APA Small Grant Program, Oxford University Press Teaching with Technology Prize, and Lisska Prize.)
- [Young Scholars of the Midwest in Ancient Philosophy](#), 2020 – present
Research group; Co-founder and co-organizer
- Socrates and Buddhist Philosophy, Pacific APA, Panel Organizer 4/2024
- Colloquium Hellenistic Philosophy, APA Central Meeting, Session chair 2/2020
- Eudemian Ethics Conference 2015, Cornell University, Organizer 8/2015

University & Department

Chair, Undergraduate Awards Committee	8/2020 - present
Co-chair, LUC Philosophy Club	Fall 2019 - present
Member, Academic Appeals Committee	Fall 2024 - present
Member, Undergraduate Coordinating Committee	Fall 2019 - 2024
Teaching Mentor for new faculty	5/2022 - present
Teaching evaluation for job candidate	2/2022
Participant, Plato Reading Group	Fall 2019 - present

Public

Volunteer for Citizen Schools, taught philosophy once a week in grade eight at Orchard Gardens Middle School in Roxbury, MA	Fall 2016
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