

FRED ABLONDI

March 2016

Department of Philosophy
Hendrix College
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Conway, AR 72032

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Area of Specialization

Early Modern Philosophy

Academic Appointments

Professor of Philosophy, Hendrix College, 2012–present
Director, Steel Center for the Study of Religion and Philosophy, 2012–present
Department Chair, Spring 2016

Associate Professor, Hendrix College, 2002–2012
Department Chair, 2005–2009; 2010–2011

Assistant Professor, Hendrix College, 1998–2002

Visiting Assistant Professor, Saint Anselm College, 1995–1998

Education

Ph.D., Marquette University, 1995
Dissertation: *Malebranche and the Cartesian Problem of the Unconscious*
M.A., The Catholic University of America, 1989
B.A., The College of William and Mary, 1987

Books

Reading Nature's Book: Galileo and the Birth of Modern Philosophy (New York: Peter Lang Publishing, 2016).

Gerauld de Cordemoy: Atomist, Occasionalist, Cartesian (Milwaukee: Marquette University Press, 2005).

Edited Journal

“Galileo and Early Modern Philosophy,” Special Section of *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* 51 (June 2015), with introduction.

Articles

“Malebranche and Suarez on the Power of Secondary Causes: A Contemporary Consideration” (with J. Aaron Simmons). In Nazif Muhtaroglu, ed. *Occasionalism East and West: New Essays on the Occasionalist Vision of Causality from the Islamic and Western Traditions*. Dubai: Kalam Research and Media Publication, forthcoming.

“Newtonian vs. Newtonian: Baxter and MacLaurin on the Inactivity of Matter.” *Journal of Scottish Philosophy* 11 (Spring 2013): 15–23.

“Hutcheson, Perception, and the Sceptic’s Challenge.” *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 20 (March 2012): 269–281.

“James Beattie, Practical Ethics, and the Human Nature Question.” *Journal of Scottish Philosophy* 10 (Spring 2012): 1–12.

“Gabriel Biel and Occasionalism: Overcoming an Apparent Tension” (with J. Aaron Simmons). *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 28 (April 2011): 159–173.

“Heretics Everywhere: On the Continuing Relevance of Galileo to the Philosophy of Religion” (with J. Aaron Simmons). *Philosophy and Theology* 22 (Spring–Summer 2010): 49–76.

“Millar on Slavery.” *Journal of Scottish Philosophy* 7 (Fall 2009): 163–75.

“François Lamy, Occasionalism, and the Mind-Body Problem.” *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 46 (October 2008): 619–29.

“Knowing Our Nature: A Note on Régis’ Response to Malebranche.” *History of European Ideas* 33 (June 2007): 135–41.

“Why It Matters that I’m Not Insane: The Role of the Madness Argument in Descartes’s First Meditation.” *International Philosophical Quarterly* 47 (March 2007): 79–89.

“Berkeley, Archetypes, and Errors.” *The Southern Journal of Philosophy* 43 (December 2005): 493–504.

“Almog’s Descartes.” *Philosophy* 80 (July 2005): 423–31.

“A Note on Hahn’s Philosophy of Logic.” *History and Philosophy of Logic* 23 (2002): 37–42.

“Kelly and McDowell on Perceptual Content.” *The Electronic Journal of Analytic Philosophy* 7 (2002). <<http://ejap.louisiana.edu/EJAP/2002/Ablondi.html>>

“Malebranche and Knowledge of the Soul.” *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 73 (Autumn 1999): 371–81.

“A Note on De Mairan and Spinozism.” *North American Spinoza Society Monograph* 8 (1999): 41–45.

“Le Spinoziste Malgré Lui?: Malebranche, De Mairan, and Intelligible Extension.” *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 15 (April 1998): 191–203.

“Automata, Living and Non-Living: Descartes’ Mechanical Biology and His Criteria for Life.” *Biology and Philosophy* 13 (April 1998): 179–86.

“Schlick, Altruism and Psychological Hedonism.” *Indian Philosophical Quarterly* 23 (July-October 1996): 417–27.

“Causality and Human Freedom in Malebranche.” *Philosophy and Theology* 9 (Spring-Summer 1996): 321–31.

“Death According to Descartes: Why the Soul Leaves the Body.” *Iyyun* 44 (January 1995): 47–53.

“Individual Identity in Descartes and Spinoza” (with Steve Barbone). *Studia Spinozana* 10 (1994): 69–91.

“*Ideae Idearum* in Spinoza’s *Ethics*.” *Lyceum* 6 (Spring 1994): 19–24.

“Malebranche, Solipsism and Divine Revelation.” *Sophia* 33 (March 1994): 43–50.

“A Spinozistic Account of Self-Deception.” *North American Spinoza Society Monograph* 1 (1993): 1–18.

“Descartes and Atheism: A Response to Polk.” *Concept* 15 (Spring 1992): 69–74.

Reviews, Review Essays, and Encyclopedia Entries

Entries for: Pierre de Bérulle, William Cavendish, Géraud de Cordemoy, Jean du Hamel, Bernard Lamy, François Lamy, Oratorians, Philosophy, Nicolas-Joseph Poisson, and Jean de Silhon in *The Cambridge Descartes Lexicon*, ed. Lawrence Nolan (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016).

Géraud de Cordemoy, *Six Discourses on the Distinction between the Body and the Soul and Treatises on Metaphysics* (translated by Steven Nadler). *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (<https://ndpr.nd.edu/>), 2015.11.04.

Alexander Broadie, *Agreeable Connexions: Scottish Enlightenment Links with France*. *Journal of Scottish Philosophy* 13 (2015): 123–126.

Silvia Parigi (ed.), *George Berkeley: Religion and Science in the Age of Enlightenment*. *Metascience* 21 (2012): 681–683.

“Absolute Beginners: Learning Philosophy by Learning Descartes and Berkeley.” *Metascience* 19 (2010): 385–389.

Tom Sorell, *Descartes Reinvented*. *Review of Metaphysics* 60 (2006): 426–27.

“Géraud de Cordemoy,” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/cordemoy/> (January 2005)

Tad M. Schmaltz, *Malebranche's Theory of the Soul: A Cartesian Interpretation*. *Philosophical Review* 107 (1998): 352–55.

John Yolton, *Perception and Reality: A History from Descartes to Kant*. *Review of Metaphysics* 50 (1997): 928–29.

Oliver Bloch (ed.), *Spinoza au XX^e siècle*. *Studia Spinozana* 10 (1994): 322–23.

Theo Verbeek, *Descartes and the Dutch*. *Dialogue* 37 (1994): 35–36.

James Petrik, *Descartes' Theory of the Will*. *Dialogue* 36 (1994): 79–80.

Patricia Easton, Thomas Lennon, and Gregor Sebba (eds.). *Bibliographia Malebranchiana*. *Dialogue* 35 (1993): 65.

Stuart Brown (ed.) *Nicolas Malebranche: His Philosophical Critics and Successors*. *Dialogue* 35 (1992): 27–28.

Other Publications

“What We Talk About When We Talk About Lowe.” In *The Red Sox and Philosophy* (Chicago: Open Court Press, 2010): 325–333.

“Epistemic Vagueness?” *Think* 8 (Summer 2009): 47–50.

“Retroactive Identity Ascriptions, Empty Questions, and Intrinsic Relations.” *Think* 7 (Winter 2008): 93–96.

“Vagueness: An Introduction (Sort Of).” *Philosophy Now* (Winter 1999/2000): 20–21.

Presentations

“Occasionalism and Secular Reason: Malebranche, Suarez, and Audi”

The Theory of Occasionalism: East and West, Harvard University, May 2013

“Hutcheson, Benevolence, and the Personal Virtue of Justice”

The Virtue of Justice (Society of Christian Philosophers, Central Region), Hendrix College, March 2012

“Beattie on Human Nature”

Practical Ethics and the Scottish Philosophical Tradition, Princeton Theological Seminary, March 2010

“Descartes, His Meditator, and the Source of Our Childhood Prejudices”

North Texas Philosophical Association, University of North Texas, April 2008

“François Lamy, Occasionalism, and the Mind-Body Problem”

Pacific Division meeting of the APA, Portland, Oregon, March 2006

South Central Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Baylor University, November 2005

“Is Gabriel Biel Really an Occasionalist?: Occasionalism, God, and the Power of Created Substances in Late Medieval Thought”

Midwest Seminar on Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Western Michigan University, May 2004

“Cordemoy on Language and the Mind-Body Union”

South Central Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Texas Tech University, October 2002

“God, Causality, and the New Science: Malebranche’s Reply to Suarez”

Arkansas Philosophical Association, University of Central Arkansas, February 2002

“Kelly and McDowell on Perceptual Content”

Arkansas Philosophical Association, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, October 2000

“Hahn’s Conception of Numbers as Something Other Than Objects”

Arkansas Philosophical Association, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, October 1999

“Anthropic Considerations and Explanation”

Northern New England Philosophical Association, Bowdoin College, October 1997

“Malebranche Contre Lui?: De Mairan, Spinozism, and Intelligible Extension”

North American Spinoza Society, New York, December 1995

Upper-Level Courses Taught since 2000

Seventeenth & Eighteenth Century Philosophy

Early Medieval Philosophy

Philosophy of Mind

Epistemology

Metaphysics
 Spinoza
 Scottish Philosophy
 Early Analytic Thought

Service to the Profession

Vice-President, North American Spinoza Society (2004–14)

Referee for: *The Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *The British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *History of Philosophy Quarterly*, *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *Sophia*, *Philosophia*, *North American Spinoza Society Monograph Series*

Service to the College

Member, Committee for Diversity Concerns, 2014-present

Appointed Member, Steering Committee for the new freshman core course “The Engaged Citizen,” 2012-2014

Appointed Member, Student Experience Subcommittee of the 2022 Strategic Vision Committee, 2012-2014

Elected Member, Committee on Committees, 2012-2014

Council of New Student Advisors, 2000-2002; 2003-2004; 2005-2007; 2008-2010; 2012-2014

Member, Athletic Advisory Council, 2010-11 (Chair, Spring 2011)

Elected Member, Committee on Committees, 2008-2010

Elected Member, Council on Academic Policy and Committee on Academic and Professional Concerns, 2005-2008

Member, President’s Budget Advisory Committee, 2005-2008

Faculty Advisor, KHDX 93.1 FM (Hendrix Radio Station), 2003-2010

United Way Campaign Coordinator, Hendrix College, 2003-2006

Chair, Student Life Committee, 2003-2004

Elected Member, Committee on Committees, 2002-2004

Appointed Member, Strategic Task Force for the Student Communications Study, 2002-2003

Member, Student Life Committee, 2002-2003

Faculty Advisor for the Student Senate, 2002-2003

Member, College Judicial Council, 2000-2002; alternate, 2002-2008

Faculty Advisor, Hendrix College Philosophy Club, 1998-2009

Member, Committee on Library and Learning Resources, 1998-2000

References

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