

John Basl

16 East Gorham Street
Madison, WI 53703
(617) 388-0700
basl@wisc.edu

Education

B.S. Philosophy with honors, Northeastern University, 2006

University of Colorado, Boulder, Summer Seminar in Philosophy, summer 2005

Topic: Philosophy of Religion

Advisor: Robert Pasnau, PhD.

Areas of Interest

Philosophy of Biology, Philosophy of Science, Metaethics, Environmental Philosophy

Publications

Basl, J., "The Pessimist Paradigm and Nanotechnology: A Response to Letham," in *News from the Bottom*. <http://schc.sc.edu/nfb/index.lasso> (2005).

Awards

National Science Foundation, Research Experience for Undergraduates Grant, 2005

Awarded for research in the ethics of nanotechnology

Dr. Kathleen Rice Alumni Scholarship

Awarded to fund a graduate course in philosophy

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Nanotechnology and Society Research Group, fall '05-summer'06

Support: Center for High-rate Nanomanufacturing

Project: Social and Ethical Implications of Nanotechnology

Advisor: Ronald Sandler, PhD.

Website: <http://nsrg.neu.edu>

Research Assistant, Center for High-rate Nanomanufacturing, summer '05

Support: National Science Foundation

Project: Environmental Restoration and Nanotechnology

Advisor: Ronald Sandler, PhD.

Research Assistant, Ronald Sandler, PhD., spring '04

Project: Environmental Justice and Environmentalism

Presentations

Colonial Academic Alliance Undergraduate Research Conference, Poster Presentation,
March 31st – April 1st, 2006

Title: *Nanotechnology and Environmental Restoration*

Center for High-Rate Nanomanufacturing, Research Presentations, August 11, 2005

Title: *Nanotechnology and the Ethical Dimensions of Environmental Restoration*

Northeastern University Philosophy Club, Student Presenter, 2005

Title: *Plantinga's Evolutionary Argument Against Naturalism*

Northeastern University Philosophy Club, Student Presenter, 2004

Title: *Just War Theory: An Introduction*

Teaching Experience

The Meaning of Death, Teaching Assistant, Spring '06

Advisor: Susan Setta, PhD.

Duties: grade exams for a 400+ student class, hold office hours, organize study groups, run computer equipment

Environmental Ethics, Teaching Internship, Fall '05

Advisor: Ronald Sandler, PhD.

Duties: organize readings, teach two classes, arrange and moderate discussions

Extracurricular Activity

Northeastern Philosophy Department Faculty-Student Reading Group, 2005-2006

Northeastern Philosophy Club, President, 2004-2006

Duties: organize discussions, arrange for speakers, create website

Website: <http://www.nuphilosophy.org>

Virtue Ethics Reading Group, Spring '04-Fall '06

Advisor: Ronald Sandler, PhD.

Affiliations

American Philosophical Association

Northeastern University Philosophy Club

Courses and Texts

University of Colorado at Boulder Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion

Topics in Philosophy Seminar: Ethics Since Darwin (PHL-U901)

The Origin of the Species – Charles Darwin

What Evolution Is – Ernst Mayr

The Blank Slate – Steven Pinker

Not by Genes Alone – Peter Richerson and Robert Boyd

Natural Goodness – Philippa Foot

Created from Animals – James Rachels

Darwin's Dangerous Idea – Daniel Dennett

The Singularity is Near – Ray Kurzweil

Great Philosophers Seminar: Kant (PHL-U902)

Critique of Pure Reason – Immanuel Kant

Great Philosophers Seminar: Descartes (PHL-U902)

Philosophical Essays and Correspondence – Descartes

Descartes Meditations – Catherine Wilson

Topics in Philosophy Seminar: Advanced Logic (PHL-U901)

Language, Proof, and Logic - Barwise and Etchemendy

Various Articles

Topics in Philosophy Seminar: Truth (PHL-U901)

Understanding Truth – Scott Soames

Truth – Blackburn and Simmons

Truth – Paul Horwich

Topics in Philosophy Seminar: War and Peace (PHL-U901)

Just and Unjust Wars - Michael Walzer

Terrorism and Justice - Coady and O'Keefe

Moral Constraints on War - Coppieters and Fotion

Humanity - Johnathan Glover

Various Articles

Topics in Philosophy Seminar: History of Modern Moral Philosophy (PHL-U901)

Moral Philosophy from Montaigne to Kant - J.B. Schneewind

The Invention of Autonomy - J.B. Schneewind

Philosophy of Mind (PHL-U535)

Philosophy of Mind – Jaegwon Kim

The Mysterious Flame – Colin McGinn

A Historical Introduction to the Philosophy of Mind – Peter Morton (ed)

Philosophy of Science (PHL-U510)

Introduction to the Philosophy of Science - Wesley Salmon et. al.
On Evolution - Charles Darwin

Metaphysics (PHL-U505)

Metaphysics - Aristotle

Correspondence - Leibniz and Clarke

Articles listed below can be found in *Contemporary Readings in the Foundations of Metaphysics* - Laurence and Macdonald

“The Nature of Metaphysics” – Peter van Inwagen

“Descriptive and Revisionary Metaphysics” – Susan Haack

“On What There Is” – W.V.O. Quine

“Possible Worlds and Possibilia” - William G. Lycan

“Possible Worlds” – David Lewis

“Possible Worlds” – Robert Stalnaker

Ways Worlds Could Be – Peter Forest

“Beyond Substrata and Bundles: A Prolegomenon to a Substance Ontology” – Michael J. Loux

“Bare Particulars” – Edwin B. Allaire

“Another Look at Bare Particulars” – Edwin B. Allaire

“Three Versions of Bundle Theory” – James Van Cleve

“Mathematical Objectivity and Mathematical Objects” – Hartry Field

“Philosophy of Logic” – Hilary Putnam

“What Numbers Could Not Be” – Paul Bernacerraf

Theory of Knowledge (PHL-U500)

The Problems of Philosophy - Bertrand Russell

Language, Truth & Logic - A.J. Ayer

Pragmatism - William James

How We Think - John Dewey

The Structure of Scientific Revolutions - T.S. Kuhn

Constructing the Political Spectacle - Murray Edelman

Various Articles

Environmental Philosophy (PHL-U480)

Philosophy Gone Wild – Holmes Rolston, III

Nature by Design – Eric Higgs

A Sand County Almanac – Aldo Leopold

Various Articles

Moral Philosophy (PHL-U435)

Nicomachean Ethics – Aristotle

Utilitarianism - J.S. Mill

Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals - Immanuel Kant

One World - Peter Singer

Various articles

Modern Philosophy (PHL-U330)

Modern Philosophy - Ariew and Watkins

Selected Figures: Descartes, Locke, Hume, Kant

Ancient Philosophy (PHL-U325)

The Presocratics - Kirk, Raven and Schofield

Ancient Philosophy - Cohen, Curd, and Reeve

Symbolic Logic (PHL-U215)

Language, Proof, and Logic - Barwise and Etchemendy

Environmental Ethics (PHL-U180)

The End of Nature - Bill McKibben

Respect for Nature - Paul Taylor

A Sand County Almanac - Aldo Leopold

Various Articles

Philosophical Problems of Economic Justice (PHL-U160)

Economic Justice - Stephen Nathanson

The Libertarian Reader - David Boaz

Anarchy, State, and Utopia - Robert Nozick

The Communist Manifesto - Marx and Engels

State and Revolution - V.I. Lenin

Business Ethics

Moral Issues in Business - Shaw and Barry