

## **Michael J. Futch**

Associate Professor of Philosophy  
Department of Philosophy and Religion  
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### **Education**

Emory University: Doctor of Philosophy in Philosophy, 2001

University of Florida: Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, 1993

### **Areas of Specialty**

Early Modern Philosophy, Metaphysics, History and Philosophy of Science

### **Areas of Competence**

Philosophy of Time, American and British Idealism

### **Current Projects**

“Royce and Poincaré on the Conventional Foundations of Science” (article draft)

“Bowne on The Realist Roots of Skepticism” (article draft)

### **Publications**

Book:

***Leibniz's Metaphysics of Time and Space*** (Springer, Boston Studies in the Philosophy of Science 2008)

Articles:

“The Selfhood and Temporality of the Absolute: Mary Whiton Calkins' Absolute Personalism,”  
*The Pluralist* (2025)

“Bowne on Self and Substance,” *Idealistic Studies* (2024)

“Norris and the Soul's Immortality,” *International Philosophical Quarterly* (2018)

“Leibniz on Compossibility and the Unity of Space,” in *Für Unser Glück Oder Das Glück Anderer*, eds. Wenchao Li and Ute Beckmann (Georg Olms Verlag, 2017).

“Leibnizian Relationalism and Temporal Essentialism,” *Studia Leibnitiana* (2013)

“Leibniz on the Logical Order of Time,” *Intellectual History Review* (2012)

“The Dogma of Necessity: Royce on Nature and Scientific Law,” *The Pluralist* (2011)

“Leibniz on Time and Substance,” *Idealistic Studies* (2006)

“Leibnizian Causation,” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* (2005)

“Leibniz on Infinite Temporal Regressions,” *International Philosophical Quarterly* (2004).

“Leibniz on Plenitude, Infinity, and the Eternity of the World,” *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* (2002)

“Supervenience and (Non-Modal) Reductionism in Leibniz’s Philosophy of Time,” *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science* (2002)

“Leibniz’s Non-Tensed Theory of Time,” *International Studies in the Philosophy of Science* (2002)

“Augustine on the Successiveness of Time,” *Augustinian Studies* (2002)

Book Reviews:

***Naturalistic Explanation in Spinoza’s Ethics: Being Mind-Full of Nature***, by Harvey Shoolman, *The Review of Metaphysics* (2022)

***Laws of Nature***, ed. by Walter Ott and Lydia Patton, *The Review of Metaphysics* (2019)

***Curiosity: How Science Became Interested in Everything***, by Philip Ball, *HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science* (2014)

***Leibniz, God, and Necessity***, by Michael Griffin, *Notre Dame Philosophical Review* (2013)

***Machines of Nature and Corporeal Substance in Leibniz***, ed. by Justin Smith and Ohad Nachtomy, *Metascience* (2012)

***Substance and Intelligibility in Leibniz’s Metaphysics***, by Jan Polkaska, *Journal of the History of Philosophy* (2011)

***La métaphysique du temps chez Leibniz et Kant***, by Adrian Nita, *Leibniz Review* (2011)

***Hegelian Metaphysics***, by Robert Stern, *Review of Metaphysics* (2010)

***Leibniz: Body, Substance, Monad***, by Dan Garber, *MetaScience*, essay review (2010)

***Spinoza's Ethics***, by Steven Nadler, *Philosophical Books* (2008)

***Leibniz and the Natural World***, by Pauline Phemister, *Journal of the History of Philosophy* (2007)

***Descartes' System of Natural Philosophy***, by Stephen Gaukroger, *Philosophical Books*, (2003)

***Substance and Individuation in Leibniz***, by J. A. Cover and John O'Leary-Hawthorne. *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, (2001, co-reviewed with Donald Rutherford)

***Causation in Early Modern Philosophy***, by Kenneth Clatterbaugh. *Philosophical Books*, (2000)

### **Conferences**

"Royce and Conventionalism," Fifteenth Biennial Congress of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science, University of Vienna, 2024.

"Du Chatelet and Leibniz on the Relationality of Space and Time: Remarks on a Possible Interpretation," (reply to Katherine Dunlop) Leibniz Society of North America, Harvard University, 2023.

"Leibniz on Divine Immensity," 11<sup>th</sup> International Leibniz Congress, Leibniz University, Hannover, Germany, 2023

"Priority Disputes: Why Leibniz was a Relationalist Before Reading Newton," (reply to Vincenzo De Risi) Leibniz Society of North America, Princeton University, 2022

"The Selfhood of the Absolute: Calkins' Monistic Personal Idealism," British Society for the History of Philosophy, The Royal Society of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, 2022

"Stace and the Evocation of God's Nothingness," Thinking About Nothing: Negation, Philosophy and the Mystical, Liverpool, England (switched to Zoom, 2021)

"Self and Substance: Bowne's Theory of Personal Identity," British Society for the History of Philosophy, King's College London, 2019

Chair, "Obligation and Oughts," Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Denver 2019

"Compossibility as Logical Possibility: Leibniz on the Necessary Unity of Space and Time," Leibniz Congress, Hannover, Germany 2016

"The Dogma of Necessity: Royce on the Laws of Nature," Collingwood Society Conference, Prato, Italy 2010

"Leibniz on Empty Space and Changeless Time," Seventh Congress for the International Society for the History of the Philosophy of Science, Vancouver, 2008

Host and Co-Organizer, South Central Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, 2007

"Leibniz on the Unity of Time," South Central Seminar in the History of Early Modern Philosophy, University of Arkansas, 2006

"Leibniz on the Unity of Time," Sixth Congress for the International Society for the History of the Philosophy of Science, Paris, 2006

"Reductionism and Social Holism," University of Bucharest, 2005

"The Plurality of Worlds in Leibniz's Philosophy of Science," University of Bucharest, 2005

"Leibniz on the Possibility of an Infinite Past," Fifth Congress for the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science, San Francisco, 2004

"Temporal and Causal Asymmetry in Leibniz's Philosophy of Science," Fourth International Conference for the History of Philosophy of Science, University of Montreal, 2002.

"Leibniz on Plenitude, Infinity, and the Eternity of the World," American Philosophical Association, Seattle, 2002

"Leibniz on Plenitude, Infinity, and the Eternity of the World," Southeastern Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Wake Forest University, 2001

"Leibniz's Causal Theory of Time," Third International Conference for the History of the Philosophy of Science, University of Vienna, 2000

"Causation, Time, and Reduction in Leibniz's Metaphysics," Joint Session Midwest and Southeastern Seminars in Early Modern Philosophy, University of Chicago, 2000

"Leibniz's Causal Theory of Time," Intermountain Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Utah State University, 2000

"Supervenience as Social Holism," Georgia Philosophical Society, Barry University, 1999

"Order and Virtue in Malebranche's Ethics," Southeastern Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Rollins College, 1998

“In Defense of Anti-anti-Realism,” Conference on Science as Discourse and Practice,  
University of Florida, 1994

**Teaching at TU (2003-present)**

First Seminar: Technology, Society, and Ethics (twice)

First Seminar: World Philosophies

First Seminar: Human Happiness and Flourishing

HON 2013 History and Philosophy of Science (twenty times)

HON 2003 The Enlightenment and Its Critics (three times)

PHIL 2013 Reasoning (twenty-two times)

PHIL 1063 Ethics and the Problems of Society (ten times)

PHIL 1003 Socrates to Sartre: Ideas that Shaped the World (thirteen times)

PHIL 1133 Ethics and the Foundations of Leadership

PHIL 1413 Great Conversation 1 (three times)

PHIL 3053 Philosophy of Science (two times)

PHIL 3023 History of Ethics (four times)

PHIL 3213 Philosophical Anthropology (two times)

PHIL 3233 Mind, Consciousness, and Self (four times)

PHIL 3073 Metaphysics (five times)

PHIL 3013 Modern Philosophy (five times)

PHIL 4993 Independent Study (fifteen times)

PHIL 4973 Senior Seminar (eight times)

PHIL 3283 Topics in Philosophy and Religion: Free Will: Human and Divine

PHIL 2993 Independent Study

REL 3283 Topics in Philosophy and Religion

REL 1413 Great Conversation 1 (three times)

**Service**

University Faculty Grievance Committee (2024-2027)

Second-year review committee for Taka Suzuki (2024)

Honors Faculty Fellow, 2023-2024 (this included, among other things, serving on the Expanded Honors Curriculum Committee)

Chair, Promotion Committee for Matthew Drever (2023)

Tenure and Promotion Committee, Christopher Frey (2022)

Tenure and Promotion Committee, Jennifer Frey (2022)

Chair, Post-tenure Review Committee, Matthew Drever (2022)

Post-Tenure Review Committee, Michael Mosher (2022)

Philosophy Club Faculty Sponsor (2003-present)

Honors Admissions Committee (2018-2024)

Energy Implementation Committee (2021-2022)

College Committee on Promotion and Tenure (2019-2021)

University Faculty Grievance Committee (2018-2021)

University Appeals Board (2018-2021)

College Committee on Faculty Rights and Responsibilities (as alternate) (2018 to 2020)

Search Committee, College of Arts and Sciences Dean (2019-2020)

Search Committee, Warren Chair of Catholic Studies (2018-2019)

College Committee on Rights and Responsibilities (2013-2016)

Chair, Department of Philosophy and Religion (2011-2014)

College Executive Committee (2012-2014 [chair 2013-2014])

Search Committee, Lubell Visiting Professor of Judaic Studies (2012)

Snuggs Lecture in Religion Coordinator (2007-2014)

Philosophy Library Liaison (2008-2014)

Search Committee, Bell Visiting Professor in Anglican and Ecumenical Studies (2007, 2009, 2011, and 2013; as chair of the committee, 2007 and 2009)

Faculty Coordinator for the Bell Lecture in Anglican and Ecumenical Studies (2006-2011)

University Review Board for Cases of Academic Misconduct (2009-2011)

College Executive Committee (2007-2009, [chair 2008-2009])

College Academic Self-Assessment Committee (2006-2008)

Religion Library Liaison (2004-2008)