

Geoffrey Allan Plauché

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Contact Information

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Education

Louisiana State University, Ph.D., Political Science, May 2009

Dissertation: *Aristotelian Liberalism: An Inquiry into the Foundations of a Free and Flourishing Society*

Committee: Cecil Eubanks (Chair), Ellis Sandoz, James Stoner, Mark Schafer, Ian Crystal, Louis Day

Fields: Political Philosophy/Theory, International Relations, Philosophy

Louisiana State University, M.A., Philosophy, December 2006

Thesis: "Aristotelian-Liberal Autonomy"

Louisiana State University, M.A., Political Science, August 2004

Thesis: "Tyranny, Natural Law, and Secession"

Louisiana State University, B.A.s, Dual Degrees in Political Science and History, May 2002

McNeese State University, August 1997 to May 1999

Louisiana Army National Guard

Primary Leadership Development Course, January 1999: Commandant's List

United States Army Intelligence School, February 1997: Distinguished Graduate

Teaching Experience

Adjunct Instructor, Professional and Online Studies, Buena Vista University:

- March 2009 to Present: State and Local Politics, BVU Seminar (Globalism)

Instructor, LSU:

- Fall 2006/Spring 2007: Introduction to Political Theory (Correspondence Course)
- Spring 2005/Fall 2005: Introduction to Political Theory

Teaching Assistant, LSU: Duties included preparing and/or grading quizzes, exams, and papers, holding review sessions, occasionally lecturing, and assisting in research.

- Spring 2006: Political Theory from Machiavelli to Nietzsche; American Constitutional Law; American Presidency; Bureaucracy, Politics, and Public Policy.
- Fall 2005: Bureaucracy, Politics, and Public Policy.
- Fall 2004: Honors American Government; American Presidency; Political Theory from Plato to Fortescue.

- Spring 2004: American Government; American Presidency (2X).
- Fall 2003: Honors American Government; American Presidency.
- Fall 2002/Spring 2003: Introduction to International Relations (4X); International Conflict and Cooperation.

Teaching Interests/Competency

Courses: Introduction to Political Theory, History of Political Theory, Aristotle (Virtue Ethics, Politics), Classical Liberal/Libertarian Political Thought, Liberalism and Its Critics, Social Contract Theory and Constitutional Republicanism, Morality and the Market, American Political Thought, Political Philosophy and Popular Culture; Introduction to International Relations, American Government, Theoretical and Applied Ethics, Philosophy of Social Science, Philosophy of Law, Introduction to Economic Reasoning and Political Economy.

Research Agenda

Long-term: all of the above areas; near-term: Aristotelian liberalism, liberalism and its critics, ethical and cultural principles and foundations of free markets and free enterprise, social contract theory, morals legislation and democracy, participatory democracy, discourse ethics, individual autonomy, philosophy of social science.

Professional Publications

Chapters in Books

2009 “Freedom Is the Right of All Sentient Beings.” *Transformers and Philosophy: More than Meets the Mind*. Volume 40 in the Popular Culture and Philosophy Series. Edited by John R. Shook and Liz Stillwaggon Swan. Chicago: Open Court Publishing Company.

Journal Articles

2007 “On *Atlas Shrugged* and the Importance of Dramatizing Our Values.” *Journal of Libertarian Studies* Vol. 21, No. 4 (Winter): 25-36. Symposium Issue on the 50th Anniversary of Ayn Rand’s *Atlas Shrugged*.

Reviews

2007 “Mark A. Young’s *Negotiating the Good Life: Aristotle and the Civil Society* (2005).” *Journal of Value Inquiry* Vol. 41, Nos. 2-4 (December): 387-393.

Professional Conference Participation

“Free Markets and Free Enterprise: Their Ethical and Cultural Principles and Foundations.” Presented at the 2009 Association of Private Enterprise Education International Conference. Guatemala City, Guatemala. April 5-7, 2009. Earlier versions also presented at the 2008 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference as “Free Markets and Free Enterprise: An Aristotelian-Liberal Account”; Chicago, IL; April 3-6, 2008; and at the Austrian Scholars Conference as “Free Markets: Their Morals, and Ethical and Cultural Foundations”; Ludwig von Mises Institute, Auburn, AL; March 15-17, 2007.

Discussant. Panel: Is Democracy Too Demanding? Capacities of Citizens. 2008 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL. April 3-6, 2008.

“Immanent Politics, Participatory Democracy, and the Pursuit of Eudaimonia.” Presented at the Austrian Scholars Conference. Ludwig von Mises Institute. Auburn, AL. March 13-15, 2008.

Discussant. Molinari Society Symposium. 2007 American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Annual Meeting. Baltimore, MD. December 27-30, 2007.

“Aristotelian-Liberal Autonomy.” Presented at the 2007 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL. April 12-15, 2007.

“Aristotelian Liberalism: Eudaimonia, Virtue, and the Right to Liberty.” Presented at the 2007 Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA. January 4-7, 2007.

Panel Chair. Politics, Subjects and Virtue: Learning from Classical Greek Political Thought. 2007 Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA. January 4-7, 2007.

“On the Myth of the Founder-Legislator in Political Philosophy.” Presented at the 2006 American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Annual Meeting. Molinari Society Symposium. Washington, D.C. December 27-30, 2006.

“On the Social Contract and the Persistence of Anarchy.” Presented at the 2006 APSA Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. August 31 - September 3, 2006.

“Moral Legislation and Democracy: The Devlin-Hart-Dworkin Debate Revisited.” Presented at the 2006 APSA Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. August 31-September 3, 2006. Also presented at the Spring Colloquium Series in Political Science; Department of Political Science, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA; March 24, 2006.

“On Praxeology and the Question of Aristotelian Apriorism.” Presented at the Austrian Scholars Conference. Ludwig von Mises Institute. Auburn, AL. March 16-18, 2006.

“De Virtute Libertateque Romanorum.” Presented at the annual conference of the Louisiana Political Science Association. Nicholls State University, Thibodaux, LA. March 3, 2006.

“Life, Death, and Harm: A Neo-Aristotelian Account.” Presented at the Institute for Humane Studies Social Change Workshop for Graduate Students. University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. June 18-24, 2005.

“The Impact of Self-Esteem on Foreign Policy Preferences.” Presented at the annual conference of the Southwestern Political Science Association. San Antonio, TX. April, 2003.

Educational Seminars, Conferences, and Workshops Attended

Online Faculty Training: Introductory Course. Buena Vista University. Instructor: Kayleen Grage. April 27 – May 3, 2009.

Graduate Seminar in Objectivist Philosophy and Method: Moral Knowledge. The Atlas Society & Its Objectivist Center. George Washington University, Washington, D.C. August 5-10, 2007. Tuition: Free for those accepted.

Mises University 2006: 21st Annual Summer Program in the Austrian School of Economics. Ludwig von Mises Institute. Auburn, AL. July 30 - August 5, 2006. Tuition: Free for those accepted.

Commerce and Culture: A Seminar with Paul Cantor (of UVA). Ludwig von Mises Institute. Auburn, AL. July 24-28, 2006.

Advanced Studies in Freedom Summer Seminar. Institute for Humane Studies. Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA. July 8-14, 2006. By invitation. Tuition: Free for those accepted.

Philosophy Seminar with Roderick Long (of Auburn University): The Praxeological Foundations of Libertarian Ethics. Ludwig von Mises Institute, Auburn, AL. June 26-30, 2006.

Introduction to Austrian Economic Analysis: Joseph Salerno (of Pace University). Ludwig von Mises Institute, Auburn, AL. June 12-23, 2006.

The 2006 Steven Berger Seminar: Thomas DiLorenzo (of Loyola College, MA) on Liberty and American Civilization. Ludwig von Mises Institute, Auburn, AL. June 5-9, 2006.

Mises University 2005: 20th Annual Summer Program in the Austrian School of Economics. Ludwig von Mises Institute. Auburn, AL. July 31 - August 6, 2005. 1 of 19, out of 34, who passed an optional Mündliche Prüfung (oral examination). Tuition: Free for those accepted.

Social Change Workshop for Graduate Students. Institute for Humane Studies. University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. June 18-24, 2005. Tuition: Free for those accepted.

Philadelphia Society Gala! 40th Anniversary Meeting. Chicago, IL. April 30 - May 2, 2004.

Liberty & Society Summer Seminar. Institute for Humane Studies. Pitzer College, CA. June 14-20, 2003. Tuition: Free for those accepted.

Academic Awards and Honors

Young Scholars Program (Registration Reduction and Travel Stipend), Association of Private Enterprise Education: APEE International Conference 2009.

Hayek Fund for Scholars, The Institute for Humane Studies: MPSA Conference 2008.

LSU Department of Political Science Travel Grant: MPSA Conference 2008.

Mises Institute Registration & Travel Scholarship: Austrian Scholars Conference 2008.

Atlas Society/Objectivist Center Travel Grant: Graduate Student Summer Seminar 2007.

H. B. Earhart Fellowship, The Earhart Foundation, 2006/2007.

Hayek Fund for Scholars, The Institute for Humane Studies: MPSA Conference 2007.

Mises Institute Registration & Travel Scholarship: Austrian Scholars Conference 2007.

APSA Travel Grant, and LSU Graduate School and Department of Political Science Travel Grants: APSA Annual Meeting 2006.

Margaret Rowley Summer Research Fellowship, The Ludwig von Mises Institute, In-Residence, Auburn, AL, May 29 - August 6, 2006.

Graduate Assistantship with Graduate School Enhancement Award: Department of Political Science, Louisiana State University, Fall 2002 - Spring 2006.

Mises Institute Registration & Travel Scholarship: Austrian Scholars Conference 2006.

Earhart Foundation Scholarship: Philadelphia Society Gala! 40th Anniversary Meeting 2004.

Louisiana State University Study Abroad Scholarship: Joint program to study art history and Mandarin Chinese in China, May 30 - July 1, 2001.

Pi Sigma Alpha (National Political Science Honor Society): Inducted in 2000.

Phi Alpha Theta (National History Honor Society): Inducted in 2000.

Professional Service and Activities

Helped to coordinate the 32nd Conference on Value Inquiry: Reason and Evaluation. Louisiana State University. April 8-10, 2005. Conference Coordinator: James Stacey Taylor.

Representative to the Graduate Committee for the Political Science Graduate Student Association, Louisiana State University, Fall 2002/Spring 2003.

Professional Memberships

- American Political Science Association (APSA)
- Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)
- Association for Political Theory (APT)
- American Philosophical Association (APA)
- Ludwig von Mises Institute
- Molinari Society (APA) and Institute

Languages

- English (native)
- Latin (reading ability, semi-proficient)
- Greek (reading ability, semi-proficient)

Military Service and Achievements

Battalion Intelligence NCO, Sergeant (E-5), HHC 3rd/156th Mechanized Infantry Battalion, Louisiana Army National Guard, January 1996 to 2002. Also served as Environmental Compliance Officer and emergency Combat Lifesaver.

Army Achievement Medal: For duties performed during summer Annual Training, 2001.

Commandant's List: Primary Leadership Development Course class of January 1999.

Certificate of Commendation: For duties performed during summer Annual Training, 1997.

Distinguished Graduate: United States Army Intelligence School, February 1997.

Other Experience

Lifeguard/Swimming Instructor, YMCA/Sulphur Parks & Recreation, May to August 1999.

1st Degree Black Belt: Songahm Taekwondo, American Taekwondo Association, 1997.

References

Dr. Cecil Eubanks
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Dr. Roderick T. Long
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Dr. James Stacey Taylor
Assistant Professor, Philosophy
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E-Mail: jtaylor@tcnj.edu

Dr. Ian Crystal
Associate Professor, Philosophy
Louisiana State University
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Dissertation Precis

*Aristotelian Liberalism:
An Inquiry into the Foundations of a Free and Flourishing Society*

My dissertation builds on the recent work of Douglas Rasmussen, Douglas Den Uyl and Roderick Long in developing an Aristotelian liberalism. It is argued that a neo-Aristotelian form of liberalism has a sounder foundation than others and has the resources to answer traditional left-liberal, postmodern, communitarian and conservative challenges by avoiding certain Enlightenment pitfalls: the charges of atomism, an a-historical and a-contextual view of human nature, license, excessive normative neutrality, the impoverishment of ethics and the trivialization of rights. An Aristotelian theory of virtue ethics and natural rights is developed that allows for a robust conception of the good while fully protecting individual liberty and pluralism. It is further argued that there is an excessive focus on what the State can and should do for us; politics is reconceived as discourse and deliberation between equals in joint pursuit of eudaimonia (flourishing, well-being) and its focus is shifted to what we *as members of society* can and should do for ourselves and each other.