

Max Wade
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Education

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA August 2019–May 2025
Ph.D. in Philosophy, graduated May 2025
Advisor: Gary Gurtler, SJ

Dissertation, “Plotinus’ Ontology of Artifacts,” successfully defended March 26, 2025

Preliminary comprehensive exam passed May 2020

Doctoral comprehensive exam passed with distinction September 2023

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ August 2015–May 2019
B.A. (2019)
Majors: Philosophy, Political Science
Minor: Comparative Literature
Departmental Honors in Philosophy, Political Science
Advisors: Michael Levine, Azzan Yadin-Israel

Research Interests

Ancient Greek Philosophy (Area of Specialization)

Neoplatonism and Late Antique Thought

Reception of Classical Greek Natural Philosophy and Metaphysics

Medieval Philosophy (Area of Concentration)

Medieval Astronomy and Science

Jewish Philosophy

History of Natural Philosophy (Area of Concentration)

Cosmology

Ontology of Artifacts

Environmental Humanities

Peer Reviewed Publications

Wade, Max. “Plotinus on the Uses and Limits of the Craft Analogy.” *Apeiron*. [Currently under review.]

Wade, Max. “Gersonides on the Heavenly Bodies’ Relation to the Agent Intellect” in *Mind, Soul and the Cosmos in the High Middle Ages*, eds. Jack Cunningham, Adam Foxon and Rosamund Gammie. *Studies in the History of Philosophy of Mind* (SHPM), vol. 31. Springer, Cham. 217–233, doi: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-78876-5_11

- Wade, Max. "Stoic Pantheism and Environmental Ethics in Pliny the Elder," in *Pantheism and Ecology: Cosmological, Philosophical, and Theological Perspectives*, ed. Luca Valera. *Ecology and Ethics*, vol 6 (2023). Springer, Cham. 15–27, doi: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-40040-7_2
- Wade, Max. "Formless Matter in Gersonides' Cosmology." *History of Philosophy & Logical Analysis* 26, 1 (2023): 79–103, doi: <https://doi.org/10.30965/26664275-bja10068>
- Wade, Max. "Eriugena on the Eternity and Creation of the World." *Thaumàzein* 10, 2 (2022): 67–90, doi: <https://doi.org/10.13136/thau.v10i2.187>

Conference Papers

- "The True Meeting of the Minds': Plotinus on Assemblies, Decision-Making, and Collective Agency" at the 2025 annual meeting of the Ancient Philosophy Society (APS). Philadelphia, PA. Apr. 24–26, 2025.
- "Existential Risk and the Anthropocene: Three Ancient Perspectives on Human Precarity" at the 2024 annual conference of the Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World (SPCW). Worcester Polytechnic Institute: Worcester, MA. Jul. 17–21, 2024.
- "Plotinus and the Stoics on Kinds of Bodies and How They are Unified" at the 21st annual conference of the International Society for Neoplatonic Studies (ISNS). Trinity College, Dublin: Dublin, Ireland. Jun. 19–22, 2024.
- "Distinctive Features within Plotinus' Elemental Theory" at the 2024 AIA/SCS Joint Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. Jan. 4–7, 2024.
- "Plotinus' Platonic Appropriation of Aristotle's Bronze Statue" at the 20th annual conference of the International Society for Neoplatonic Studies (ISNS). Università degli Studi di Catania: Catania, Italy. Jun. 14–17, 2023.
- "Relation and Resemblance: Gersonides and Crescas on the Sun's Heating of the Air" at the New England Medieval Consortium 2022 Conference: Medieval Ecologies. Colby College: Waterville, ME. Oct. 8, 2022.
- "Universal Mind or World Soul? Gersonides on the Agent Intellect" at the first International Medieval Mind Conference. Bishop Grosseteste University: Lincoln, United Kingdom. Jun. 30–Jul. 2, 2022.
- "The Bones of Heaven: Formless Matter and the Rejection of Hylomorphism in Gersonides" at the Late Medieval Hylomorphism: Matter and Form 1300-1600 International Conference. KU Leuven: Leuven, Belgium. Jun. 9–11, 2022.
- "Gaia and the Soul of Nature: Plotinus on the Generation of Plants and Minerals" at the ICHS USF Conference: Natural Resources and Flourishing in Ancient Greece. University of South Florida: Tampa, FL. Apr. 22–24, 2022.
- "Society, Ethics and Reason in the Ḥatāta Zār'a Ya'ʿaqob" at the Fordham Philosophical Society Graduate Conference. Fordham University: New York, NY. Feb. 2, 2022.
- "Thomas Aquinas and the Legacy of Pre-Socratic Theories of Perception" at the Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy inaugural conference. Notre Dame: South Bend, IN. Oct. 3–6, 2021.

Additional Publications

- Review of *Aristotle's Ontology of Artifacts* by Marilù Papandreou in *The International Journal of the Platonic Tradition*. [Forthcoming]
- “The Dance of Reality: Plotinus and the Activity of the Whole” for the Journal of the History of Ideas Blog. Published Nov. 18, 2024.
<https://www.jhiblog.org/2024/11/18/the-dance-of-reality-plotinus-and-the-activity-of-the-whole/>
- “Our Duties to the Earth: Pliny the Elder as a Proto-Environmentalism” for the Journal of the History of Ideas Blog. Published Dec. 12, 2022.
<https://jhiblog.org/2022/12/12/our-duties-to-the-earth-pliny-the-elder-as-a-proto-environmentalist/>
- Wade, Maxwell. “Walter Benjamin's ‘Über den Begriff der Geschichte’ and the Marxist Tradition.” *Dianoia: The Undergraduate Philosophy Journal of Boston College* 6, no. 1 (2019): 61–74.
- Wade, Maxwell. “Occult and Mystical Influences on the Philosophy of Otto Weininger.” *Proteus: The Rutgers Undergraduate Journal of Comparative Literature* 2 (2019): 28–54.

Teaching Experience

Full Instructor

- PHIL 1070 Philosophy of the Person I – Boston College, Fall 2020
- PHIL 1071 Philosophy of the Person II – Boston College, Spring 2021
- PHIL 1070 Philosophy of the Person I – Boston College, Fall 2021
- PHIL 1071 Philosophy of the Person II – Boston College, Spring 2022
- PHIL 2264 Logic – Boston College, Fall 2022
- PHIL 2264 Logic – Boston College, Spring 2023
- PHL 154 Moral Foundations – St. Joseph's University, Fall 2025

Teaching Assistant

- PHIL 160 Reasoning and Argumentation – Boston University, Spring 2023; Teaching Assistant for Prof. Derek Anderson (grading, discussion sections)

Departmental Talks and Other Presentations

- “Plotinus’ Ontology of Artifacts” at the Young Philosophers Series. Boston College: Chestnut Hill, MA. Apr. 9, 2025
- “Emma Goldman and Dora Marsden” at the PhilosopHERs Workshop. Boston College: Chestnut Hill, MA. Dec. 6, 2023.
- “Plotinus’ Theory of Intelligible Animals in Ennead VI.7.5–12” for the John Duffy Society (Harvard University Department of Classics). Harvard University: Cambridge, MA. Apr. 12, 2023.
- “Teachers, Mystics, and Philosophers: Women in the Neoplatonic Academy” at the PhilosopHERs Workshop. Boston College: Chestnut Hill, MA. Jan. 24, 2022.

“Philosophy and Astrology in the Middle Ages” at the Young Philosophers Series. Boston College: Chestnut Hill, MA. Nov. 30, 2021.

Professional Service

Panel co-organizer, “Nature in the Platonic Tradition,” for the 2024 International Society of Neoplatonic Studies (ISNS) conference. Jun. 19–23, 2024.

Philosophy Graduate Student Association (GSA) Fifth+ Year Representative. Fall 2023–Spring 2025.

Panel co-organizer, “Puzzles and Paradoxes in the Platonic Tradition,” for the 2023 International Society of Neoplatonic Studies (ISNS) conference. Jun. 14–17, 2023.

Conference co-organizer, “Embodiment from Then to Now: Perspectives on Sex and Gender,” 2023 Boston College Philosophy Graduate Student Conference. Mar. 24–25, 2023.

Workshop co-organizer, “History of Philosophy Methodology and Research Workshop.” Fall 2022.

Assistant Editor, *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy*. Fall 2021–Spring 2025.

Professional Society Memberships

International Society for Neoplatonic Studies (ISNS) – since December 2022

Society for Classical Studies (SCS) – since April 2023

The Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy (SAGP) – since September 2023

Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World (SCPW) – since April 2024

Ancient Philosophy Society (APS) – since December 2024

Languages

Ancient Greek (two years of formal study)

Patristic Greek course; taught by Prof. Margaret Schatkin (Fall 2019–Spring 2020)

Lower Intermediate course; Dan Slușanschi School for Classical and Oriental Languages, led by Cristian Ioan Dumitru (Fall 2021–Spring 2022)

Organizer, Greek reading group (Fall 2022–Summer 2023)

Participant, Greek reading group led by Prof. Andrew Culbreth (Fall 2023–present)

French (one year of study)

Reading knowledge course taught by Prof. Stephen Bold (Boston College – Summer 2022)

Spanish (seven years of study)

Grades 7-12, some college

Elementary **Czech** (one year of study)

Immersion course (Charles University, Prague – Summer 2018)

References

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