

Joel A. Van Fossen

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Employment

Hosei University, Department of Global and Interdisciplinary Studies

Tokyo, Japan

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

March 2023-Current

- **Courses Taught:** *Introduction to Ethics, Introduction to Philosophy, History of Philosophy, Philosophy and Political Thought, Existentialism, Topics in Philosophy, Advanced Topics in Philosophy I & II.*

Areas of Study

Areas of Specialization Normative Ethics (esp. Philosophy of Love), Aesthetics, History of Ethics, 19th-century Philosophy (esp. Nietzsche)

Areas of Competence Metaethics, Logic, Early Modern Philosophy, Political Philosophy

Education

Boston University

Boston, MA USA

PH.D. IN PHILOSOPHY

May 2023

- **Dissertation Title:** *Reasons for Love, Reasons of Love*

Georgia State University

Atlanta, GA USA

M.A. IN PHILOSOPHY

August 2017

- **Thesis Title:** *Nietzsche, Homer, and Dissimulation*

St. Norbert College

De Pere, WI USA

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PHILOSOPHY AND CLASSICS

May 2013

Publications

Appreciation (co-authored with Daniel Star)

MANUSCRIPT UNDER CONTRACT, Oxford University Press.

Nietzsche on Love

MANUSCRIPT UNDER CONTRACT, Cambridge University Press.

Review of Donovan Miyasaki, *Nietzsche's Immoralism: Politics as First Philosophy* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022)

FORTHCOMING, *The Journal of Moral Philosophy*.

“Ressentiment as a Reactive Attitude”

FORTHCOMING, *The Moral Psychology of Resentment* ANTTI KAUPPINEN AND MAX LEWIS, Eds., (ROWMAN & LITTLEFIELD).

“Love and Practical Wisdom”

Psyche MARCH 31, 2025, [HTTPS://PSYCHE.CO/IDEAS/ITS-POSSIBLE-TO-BECOME-WISER-IN-WHO-YOU-ENTRUST-WITH-YOUR-LOVE](https://PSYCHE.CO/IDEAS/ITS-POSSIBLE-TO-BECOME-WISER-IN-WHO-YOU-ENTRUST-WITH-YOUR-LOVE).

“On Egoism and Honor in Spinoza”

GIS journal: the Hosei journal of global and interdisciplinary studies 10 (2025): 36-49.

“Finite Love”

Inquiry (2024): PP. 1-30.

Review of Samuel Hollander, *A History of Utilitarian Ethics: Studies in Private Motivation and Distributive Justice, 1700-1875* (Routledge, 2020)

The Journal of Moral Philosophy 21.3-4 (JULY 2024): PP. 488-491.

“Nietzsche on Self-Reverence”

The Journal of Nietzsche Studies 53.2 (AUTUMN 2022): PP. 181-201

“Nietzsche and Shame”

The Journal of Nietzsche Studies 50.2 (AUTUMN 2019): PP. 233-249.

“Nietzsche, Self-Disgust, and Disgusting Morality”

The Journal of Nietzsche Studies 50.1 (SPRING 2019): PP. 79-105.

Review of Christa Davis Acampora, *Contesting Nietzsche* (The University of Chicago Press, 2013)

The Journal of Nietzsche Studies 49.2 (FALL 2018): PP. 295-300.

Conference Presentations

“Nietzsche on Eros”

NORTH AMERICAN NIETZSCHE SOCIETY, AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION PACIFIC DIVISION 2026 MEETING

Online

January 9, 2026

“Love, Wellbeing, and Rational Requirement”

INVITED SYMPOSIUM PRESENTATION AT AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION EASTERN DIVISION 2026 MEETING

Baltimore, MD USA

January 9, 2026

“Aesthetic Appreciation, Agency, and Respect,” co-presented with Daniel Star

INVITED SYMPOSIUM PRESENTATION AT AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION EASTERN DIVISION 2026 MEETING

Baltimore, MD USA

January 9, 2026

“Appreciation, Inquiry, and Deliberation: Exploring the Structure of Three Processes”

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, ANALYTICAL PHILOSOPHY WORKSHOP (TOKYO UNIVERSITY)

Tokyo, Japan

March 8, 2025

“Nietzsche on Affirmative Love”

LOVE AND LONELINESS WORKSHOP (CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO)

San Bernardino, USA

December 6-7, 2024

“Aesthetic Appreciation and Aesthetic Engagement”

TOKYO FORUM FOR ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY

Tokyo, Japan

November 29, 2024

“Sidgwick, Rationality, and the Dualism of Practical Reason”

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR UTILITARIAN STUDIES 2024 CONFERENCE (UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON)

London, UK

June 18-20, 2024

“Aesthetic Appreciation, Aesthetic Judgments, and Love,” co-presented with Daniel Star

INVITED WORKSHOP (KYOTO UNIVERSITY)

Kyoto, Japan

June 11-12, 2024

“Aesthetic Appreciation, Aesthetic Judgments, and Love”

GIS TALK (HOSEI UNIVERSITY)

Tokyo, Japan

May 17, 2024

“Aesthetic Appreciation, Aesthetic Judgments, and Love,” co-presented with Daniel Star

BOSTON UNIVERSITY, FACULTY WORK IN PROGRESS WORKSHOP

Boston University, USA (Online)

December 8, 2023

“Satisficing Love”

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PHILOSOPHY OF SEX AND LOVE ONLINE SEMINAR, PANEL ON REASONS FOR LOVE

Online

November 30, 2023

“Satisficing Love” COLLOQUIUM PRESENTATION AT AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION EASTERN DIVISION 2023 MEETING	Montreal, Québec CA January 4-7, 2023
“Love in the Deepest Sense” NORTH AMERICAN NIETZSCHE SOCIETY 2022 CONFERENCE (BROWN UNIVERSITY)	Providence, RI USA October 7-8, 2022
“Nietzsche on Self-Reverence” NORTH AMERICAN NIETZSCHE SOCIETY 2021 CONFERENCE (GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY)	Atlanta, GA USA October 15-17, 2021
“On Egoism and Honor in Spinoza” COLLOQUIUM PRESENTATION AT AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION EASTERN DIVISION 2021 MEETING	Online January 4, 2021
“‘Birth Follows the Belly’: A Reinterpretation of Natural Maternal Dominion in Hobbes” SYMPOSIUM PRESENTATION AT AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION CENTRAL DIVISION 2019 MEETING	Denver, CO USA February 20-23, 2019
“‘Birth Follows the Belly’: A Reinterpretation of Natural Maternal Dominion in Hobbes” INTERNATIONAL HOBBS ASSOCIATION 2019 ANNUAL MEETING	New York, NY USA January 7-10, 2019
“‘Birth Follows the Belly’: A Reinterpretation of Natural Maternal Dominion in Hobbes” THE EUROPEAN HOBBS SOCIETY “HOBBS AND GENDER WORKSHOP” (FRIEDRICH-ALEXANDER UNIVERSITÄT) • This conference was an invited, pre-read workshop.	Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany November 22-23, 2018
“Nietzsche and Shame” NORTH AMERICAN NIETZSCHE SOCIETY 2018 CONFERENCE (STANFORD UNIVERSITY)	Stanford, CA USA October 5-7, 2018

Courses As Primary Instructor

Hosei University ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	Boston, MA USA March 2023-Present
• Introduction to Ethics, Introduction to Philosophy, History of Philosophy, Philosophy and Political Thought, Existentialism, Topics in Philosophy, Advanced Topics in Philosophy I & II	
Northeastern University PART-TIME INSTRUCTOR	Boston, MA USA Fall 2022
• Moral and Social Problems in Health Care	
Boston College PART-TIME INSTRUCTOR	Boston, MA USA Fall 2022
• Philosophy of the Person I & II	
Northeastern University PART-TIME INSTRUCTOR	Boston, MA USA Fall 2021
• Early Modern Philosophy	
Boston University SENIOR TEACHING FELLOW	Boston, MA USA Fall 2021
• Medical Ethics	
Boston University SENIOR TEACHING FELLOW	Boston, MA USA Summer 2021
• Early Modern Philosophy	
Assumption University ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY	Worcester, MA USA two sections Spring 2021
• Ethics and the Good Life	
Georgia State University GRADUATE INSTRUCTOR	Atlanta, GA USA four sections Fall 2016-Spring 2017
• Introduction to Philosophy	

Teaching Assistantships

Harvard Extension School	Boston, MA USA
TEACHING FELLOW	Spring 2022
• Introduction to Ethics	
Boston University	Boston, MA USA
TEACHING FELLOW	Fall 2018-Spring 2021
• Medical Ethics	
• Existentialism	
• Politics and Philosophy	
• Reason and Argumentation	
• Introduction to Ethics	
Georgia State University	Atlanta, GA USA
SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTOR IN PHILOSOPHY	Spring 2016-Summer 2016
• Introduction to Philosophy	
• Critical Thinking	
Georgia State University	Atlanta, GA USA
WRITING CONSULTANT	Fall 2015
• Critical Thinking	
St. Norbert College	De Pere, WI USA
TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP	Fall 2012

Academic Awards and Fellowships

Best Teacher Award	Montreal, Québec CA
HOSEI UNIVERSITY	2025
• University-wide award, based on student nominations	
Travel Grant Award	Montreal, Québec CA
AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION, EASTERN DIVISION	2023
North American Nietzsche Society 2023 Graduate Student Prize	Providence, RI USA
NORTH AMERICAN NIETZSCHE SOCIETY	2022
• Travel grant awarded to the best abstract submitted by a graduate student	
Angela J. and James J. Rallis Memorial Award and Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize	Boston, MA USA
BOSTON UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES	2021
• This award is based on a nomination from the Boston University Philosophy Department and an award application based on my dissertation work.	
Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award	Boston, MA USA
BOSTON UNIVERSITY, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT	2021
• This award is granted annually to one graduate student for outstanding teaching.	
Summer Dissertation Writing Fellowship	Boston, MA USA
BOSTON UNIVERSITY, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT	2020
Travel Grant Award	Denver, CO USA
AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION, CENTRAL DIVISION	2019
Thomas Phelan and James Regan Award for Excellence in Philosophy	De Pere, WI USA
ST. NORBERT COLLEGE, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT	2013
Student Faculty Development Endowment Fund	De Pere, WI USA
ST. NORBERT COLLEGE, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT	2013
Student Faculty Development Endowment Fund	De Pere, WI USA
ST. NORBERT COLLEGE, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT	2012

Service

Cambridge University Press, Erkenntnis, Inquiry, Journal of Modern Philosophy, Journal of Nietzsche Studies

REVIEWER

Graduate Student Events Coordinator

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Boston, MA USA

Fall 2021-Spring 2022

Organizer, 2021 Graduate Student Philosophy Conference. Theme: *Philosophy of Science*

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Online

Spring 2021

Organizer, 2020 Graduate Student Philosophy Conference. Theme: *Social Ontology*

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Boston, MA USA

Spring 2020

Professional Affiliations

American Association of Philosophy Teachers

American Philosophical Association

North American Nietzsche Society