

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

- Introduction to Ethics, Introduction to Philosophy, History of Philosophy, Philosophy and Political Thought, Existentialism, Topics in Philosophy, Advanced Topics in Philosophy I & II

Boston, MA USA
March 2023-Present

Northeastern University

PART-TIME INSTRUCTOR

- Moral and Social Problems in Health Care

Boston, MA USA
Fall 2022

Boston College

PART-TIME INSTRUCTOR

- Philosophy of the Person I & II

Boston, MA USA
Fall 2022

Northeastern University

PART-TIME INSTRUCTOR

- Early Modern Philosophy

Boston, MA USA
Fall 2021

Boston University

SENIOR TEACHING FELLOW

- Medical Ethics

Boston, MA USA
Fall 2021

Boston University

SENIOR TEACHING FELLOW

- Early Modern Philosophy

Boston, MA USA
Summer 2021

Assumption University

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY

- Ethics and the Good Life

Worcester, MA USA
two sections Spring 2021

Georgia State University

GRADUATE INSTRUCTOR

- Introduction to Philosophy

Atlanta, GA USA
four sections Fall 2016-Spring 2017

Teaching Assistantships

Harvard Extension School

TEACHING FELLOW

- Introduction to Ethics

Boston, MA USA

Spring 2022

Boston University

TEACHING FELLOW

- Medical Ethics
- Existentialism
- Politics and Philosophy
- Reason and Argumentation
- Introduction to Ethics

Boston, MA USA

Fall 2018-Spring 2021

Georgia State University

SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTOR IN PHILOSOPHY

- Introduction to Philosophy
- Critical Thinking

Atlanta, GA USA

Spring 2016-Summer 2016

Georgia State University

WRITING CONSULTANT

- Critical Thinking

Atlanta, GA USA

Fall 2015

St. Norbert College

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP

De Pere, WI USA

Fall 2012

Academic Awards and Fellowships

Best Teacher Award

HOSEI UNIVERSITY

- University-wide award, based on student nominations

Montreal, Québec CA

2025

Travel Grant Award

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION, EASTERN DIVISION

Montreal, Québec CA

2023

North American Nietzsche Society 2023 Graduate Student Prize

NORTH AMERICAN NIETZSCHE SOCIETY

- Travel grant awarded to the best abstract submitted by a graduate student

Providence, RI USA

2022

Angela J. and James J. Rallis Memorial Award and Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize

BOSTON UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES

- This award is based on a nomination from the Boston University Philosophy Department and an award application based on my dissertation work.

Boston, MA USA

2021

Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award

BOSTON UNIVERSITY, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

- This award is granted annually to one graduate student for outstanding teaching.

Boston, MA USA

2021

Summer Dissertation Writing Fellowship

BOSTON UNIVERSITY, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

Boston, MA USA

2020

Travel Grant Award

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION, CENTRAL DIVISION

Denver, CO USA

2019

Thomas Phelan and James Regan Award for Excellence in Philosophy

ST. NORBERT COLLEGE, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

De Pere, WI USA

2013

Student Faculty Development Endowment Fund

ST. NORBERT COLLEGE, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

De Pere, WI USA

2013

Student Faculty Development Endowment Fund

ST. NORBERT COLLEGE, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

De Pere, WI USA

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