

# Richard Brian Davis, Ph.D.

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Tyndale University College  
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## EDUCATION

- 1993-1998      PhD in Philosophy, University of Toronto,  
*Dissertation: The Dependence Problem: Theism, Counterpossibles, and Necessity*
- 1992-1993      MA in Philosophy, University of Toronto,
- 1983-1986      BSc in Zoology, University of Alberta

## EMPLOYMENT

- 2018-            Chair of Philosophy, Tyndale University College
- 2013-            Professor of Philosophy, Tyndale University College
- 2012-2015      Chair of Philosophy, Tyndale University College
- 2003-2013      Associate Professor of Philosophy, Tyndale University College
- 2000-2003      Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Tyndale University College
- 2000-            Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, Glendon College, York University
- 1999-2000      Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, Tyndale University College
- 1997-1999      Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, University of Toronto

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETENCE

### Areas of Specialization

Metaphysics and ontology (individuation, universals, relations, modality, constituent ontology); Philosophy of Religion; Epistemology.

### Areas of Competence

Logic (formal, informal, modal); Early Modern Philosophy; Philosophy of Science, Ethics.

## PUBLICATIONS

## Books

- 2019 *Disney and Philosophy: Truth, Trust, and a Little Bit of Pixie Dust*. Editor. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2016 *Four Views on Christianity and Philosophy*. Co-edited with Paul Gould. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- 2014 *Loving God with your Mind: Essays in Honor of J. P. Moreland*. Co-edited with Paul Gould. Chicago: Moody Press.
- 2010 *Alice in Wonderland and Philosophy*. Editor. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2007 *24 and Philosophy: The World According to Jack*. Co-edited with Jennifer Hart Weed and Ronald Weed. Oxford: Blackwell. Translated into Portuguese August 2008.
- 2001 *The Metaphysics of Theism and Modality*, American University Studies, Series V: Philosophy, Vol. 189. New York: Peter Lang Publishing. Reviewed by Hugo Meynell in *Heythrop Journal* (July 2005).

## Articles

- 2019 Evil and Agent-Causal Theism. In W. Paul Franks, ed., *Explaining Evil: Four Views*. Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 11-28.
- 2019 Replies to Critics. In W. Paul Franks, ed., *Explaining Evil: Four Views*. Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 41-47.
- 2019 Response to Paul Helm's "Evil and Christian Classical Theism." In W. Paul Franks, ed., *Explaining Evil: Four Views*. Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 66-69.
- 2019 Response to Michael Ruse's "Evil and Atheistic Moral Skepticism." In W. Paul Franks, ed., *Explaining Evil: Four Views*. Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 104-108.
- 2019 Response to Erik J. Wielenberg's "Evil and Atheistic Moral Realism." In W. Paul Franks, ed., *Explaining Evil: Four Views*. Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 140-144.
- 2019 "Everyone is Special, Dash": Tolerance and Inclusion in a World of Incredible Differences. In Richard Brian Davis, *Disney and Philosophy: Truth, Trust, and a Little Bit of Pixie Dust*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2018 Plantinga's Defence and His Theodicy are Incompatible (with Paul Franks). In Klaas J. Kraay, ed., *Does God Matter? Essays on the Axiological Consequences of Theism*. New York: Routledge Press, pp. 203-223.
- 2017 Where the Bootstrapping Really Lies: A Neo-Aristotelian Reply to Panchuk (with Paul Gould). *International Philosophical Quarterly* 57: 415-428.
- 2015 Counterpossibles and the 'Terrible' Divine Command Deity (with Paul Franks). *Religious Studies* 51: 1-19.

- 2014 On Jesus, Derrida, and Dawkins: Rejoinder to Joshua Harris (with Paul Franks). *Philosophia Christi* 16: 175-181.
- 2014 What Place, then, for Rational Apologetics? (with Paul Franks). In Paul Gould and Richard Brian Davis, eds., *Loving God with Your Mind: Essays in Honor of J. P. Moreland*. Chicago: Moody Press, pp. 127-140.
- 2014 Modified Theistic Activism (with Paul Gould). In Paul Gould, ed., *Beyond the Control of God? Six Views on the Problem of God and Abstract Objects*. New York, NY: Continuum, pp. 51-63.
- 2014 Response to Critics (with Paul Gould). In Paul Gould, ed., *Beyond the Control of God? Six Views on the Problem of God and Abstract Objects*. New York, NY: Continuum, pp. 75-81.
- 2014 Response to Keith Yandell's "God and Propositions" (with Paul Gould). In Paul Gould, ed., *Beyond the Control of God? Six Views on the Problem of God and Abstract Objects*. New York, NY: Continuum, pp. 36-38.
- 2014 Response to Greg Welty's "Theistic Conceptual Realism" (with Paul Gould). In Paul Gould, ed., *Beyond the Control of God? Six Views on the Problem of God and Abstract Objects*. New York, NY: Continuum, pp. 99-100.
- 2014 Response to William Lane Craig's "Anti-Platonism" (with Paul Gould). In Paul Gould, ed., *Beyond the Control of God? Six Views on the Problem of God and Abstract Objects*. New York, NY: Continuum, pp. 128-130.
- 2014 Response to Scott Shalkowski's "God With or Without Abstract Objects" (with Paul Gould). In Paul Gould, ed., *Beyond the Control of God? Six Views on the Problem of God and Abstract Objects*. New York, NY: Continuum, pp. 156-158.
- 2014 Response to Graham Oppy's "Abstract Objects? Who Cares?" (with Paul Gould). In Paul Gould, ed., *Beyond the Control of God? Six Views on the Problem of God and Abstract Objects*. New York, NY: Continuum, pp. 184-186.
- 2014 Adam, Eve, and the Gospel (with Paul Franks). *Enrichment Journal* 19: 32-35.
- 2013 Layman's Lapse: On an Incomplete Moral Argument for Theism (with Paul Franks). *Philo* 16: 1-9.
- 2013 Against a Postmodern Pentecostal Epistemology (with Paul Franks). *Philosophia Christi* 15: 129-145.
- 2013 Are Bare Particulars Constituents? *Acta Analytica* 28: 395-410.
- 2013 How to Individuate Universals—Or Not. *Axiomathes* 23: 551-566.
- 2011 God and the Platonic Horde: A Defense of Limited Conceptualism. *Philosophia Christi* 13: 298-303.
- 2009 Oppy and Modal Theistic Proofs. *Philosophia Christi* 11: 437-444.

- 2009 Magneto, Mutation, and Morality. In Rebecca Housel and J. Jeremy Wisniewski, eds., *X-Men and Philosophy*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, pp. 125-139.
- 2008 A Puzzle for Particulars? (with David Brown). *Axiomathes* 18: 49-65.
- 2008 God and Modal Concretism. *Philosophia Christi* 10: 37-54.
- 2007 Beyond the Call of Duty. In Jennifer Hart Weed, Richard Davis, and Ronald Weed, eds., *24 and Philosophy: The World According to Jack*. Oxford: Blackwell, pp. 31-42.
- 2006 God and Counterpossibles. *Religious Studies* 42: 371-391.
- 2006 Is Socrates A Predicate? *Metaphysica* 7: 5-18.
- 2004 The Brave New Bare Particularism. *The Modern Schoolman* 81: 267-273.
- 2004 On Individuators: A Reply to Timothy Pickavance. *Philosophia Christi* 6: 111-120.
- 2004 A Premature Farewell to Leibnizian Essences: A Response to J. P. Moreland. *Philosophia Christi* 6: 87-94.
- 2003 "Partially Clad" Bare Particulars Exposed. *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 81: 534-548.
- 2002 Haecceities, Individuation, and the Trinity: A Reply to Keith Yandell. *Religious Studies* 38: 201-213.
- 2002 Can There Be An 'Orthodox' Postmodern Theology? *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 45: 111-123.
- 2000 James Fodor's Christian Theory of Truth: Is it Christian? (with David Brown). *Heythrop Journal* 41: 436-448.
- 1997 Zagzebski and Interesting Counterpossibles. *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 71: 125-136.
- 1996 Bonaventure and the Arguments for the Impossibility of an Infinite Temporal Regression. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 70: 362-380.
- 1996 Time, Infinity, and the Creation of the Universe: A Study in Al-Kindi's *First Philosophy*. *Auslegung* 21: 1-16.
- 1995 The Principlism Debate: A Critical Overview. *The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 20: 85-105.
- 1994 Modality and Eternity: Averroes on the Eternity of the World. *Lyceum* 6: 21-40.

## Reviews

- 2005 Gary Habermas' *The Risen Jesus and Future Hope*. *Philosophia Christi* 7: 231-234.

- 2004 Jay Wesley Richards' *The Untamed God: A Philosophical Exploration of Divine Perfection, Simplicity, and Immutability*. *Philosophia Christi* 6: 355-356.
- 2003 Peter Loptson's *Reality: Fundamental Topics in Metaphysics*. *University of Toronto Quarterly* 72: 322-323.
- 2002 Michael Ruse's *Can a Darwinian Be a Christian?* *Books in Canada* 31: 22.
- 2001 Thomas Hurka's *Virtues, Vices, and Value*. *Books in Canada* 30: 29.

### References/Replies to My Work

- 2018 Myron A. Penner, Cognitive Science of Religion, Atheism, and Theism. *Faith and Philosophy* 35: 105-131.
- 2018 David James Redmond, God and the Grounding of Morality. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation. The University of Iowa.
- 2016 Colin P. Ruloff, On Propositional Platonism, Representation, and Divine Conceptualism. *European Journal for the Philosophy of Religion* 8: 195-212.
- 2016 Michelle Panchuk, Created and Uncreated Things: A Neo-Augustinian Solution to the Bootstrapping Problem. *International Philosophical Quarterly* 56: 99-112.
- 2016 Michelle Panchuk, Divine Ideas for Metaphysical Realism. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation. University of South Carolina.
- 2016 Joshua Mugg, The Quietest Challenge to the Axiology of God: A Cognitive Approach to Counterpossibles. *Faith and Philosophy* 33: 441-460.
- 2016 Wes Morrison, 'Terrible' Divine Commands Revisited: A Response to Davis and Franks. *Religious Studies* 52: 361-373.
- 2015 Myron Penner and Kirk Lougheed, Pro-Theism and the Added Value of Morally Good Agents. *Philosophia Christi* 17: 53-69.
- 2014 Robert K. Garcia, Bare Particulars and Constituent Ontology. *Acta Analytica* 29: 149-159.
- 2014 Timothy Pickavance, Bare Particulars and Exemplification. *American Philosophical Quarterly* 51: 95-108.
- 2014 Timothy Pickavance, Individuation and Incarnation. In Paul Gould and Richard Brian Davis, eds., *Loving God with Your Mind: Essays in Honor of J. P. Moreland*. Chicago: Moody Press, pp. 51-66.
- 2014 Joshua Lee Harris, Who's Truth? A Response to Davis and Franks's Against a Postmodern Pentecostal Epistemology. *Philosophia Christi* 16: 175-184.
- 2013 Jesse M. Mulder, The Essentialist Inference. *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 91: 755-769.
- 2012 Andrew M. Bailey, No Bare Particulars. *Philosophical Studies* 58: 31-41.

- 2011 David Baggett and Jerry Walls, *Good God: The Theistic Foundations of Morality*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2010 Sara L. Uckelman, Reasoning about the Trinity: A Modern Formalization of a Medieval System of Trinitarian Logic. In A. Schumann, ed., *Logic in Religious Discourse*. Frankfurt: Ontos, pp. 216-239.
- 2009 Fred Wilson, Universals, Particulars, Tropes and Blobs. In Rosaria Egidi and Guido Bonino, eds., *Fostering the Ontological Turn (1906-1987)*. Frankfurt: Ontos Verlag, pp. 15-43.
- 2009 Graham Oppy, Reply to Richard Davis. *Philosophia Christi* 11: 423-436.
- 2009 Timothy Pickavance, In Defense of ‘Partially Clad’ Bare Particulars.’ *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 89: 1-4.
- 2008 Klaas J. Kraay, Creation, Actualization, and God’s Choice Among Possible Worlds. *Philosophy Compass* 3: 854-872.
- 2008 Martin Schmidt, On Spacetime, Points, and Bare Particulars. *Metaphysica* 9: 69-77.
- 2006 Christopher M. Cullen, *Bonaventure*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2006 Brian Leftow, Impossible Worlds. *Religious Studies* 42: 393-402.
- 2006 Jeffrey Grupp, Blob Theory: N-adic Properties Do Not Exist. *Sorites* 17: 104-131.
- 2005 Benjamin Brown, Bonaventure on the Impossibility of a Beginningless World: Why the Traversal Argument Works.” *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 79: 389–409.
- 2005 Nancy Stowe Cader, Justifying Bioethical Case Decisions: Reflective Equilibrium and Mid-Level Moral Principles. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation. University of Maryland, College Park.
- 2004 M. Gordon, Humanity in Long-Term Care: Ethical, Clinical, and Social Challenges. *Canadian Family Physician* 50: 1629–1631.
- 2004 D. W. Mertz, The Nature and Necessity of Composite Simples. *Metaphysica* 5: 89–134.
- 2004 Frank Hofmann, Substrate. *Metaphysica* 5: 35–62.
- 2004 Timothy Pickavance, The Farewell to Leibnizian Essences Matured: A Reply to Richard Brian Davis. *Philosophia Christi* 6: 95–110.
- 2004 William Lane Craig and Paul Copan, Creation and Abstract Objects. In *Creation out of Nothing: A Biblical, Philosophical, and Scientific Exploration*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books.
- 2003 J. P. Moreland and William Lane Craig, *Philosophical Foundations for a Christian Worldview*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.
- 2003 Jeffrey Brand-Ballard, Consistency, Common Morality, and Reflective Equilibrium. *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal* 13: 231–258.

- 2003 Anthony S. Kessel, Public Health Ethics: Teaching Survery and Critical Review. *Social Science and Medicine* 56: 1439–1445.
- 2003 William Lane Craig and Antony Flew, *Does God Exist?: The Craig-Flew Debate*, ed. Stan W. Wallace. Farnham, Surrey, UK: Ashgate Publishing.
- 2002 Randal Rauser, Is the Trinity a True Contradiction? *Quodlibet Journal* 4(4).
- 2002 Kim D. Arcus and Anthony S. Kessel, Are Ethical Principles Relative to Time and Place? *British Medical Journal* 325: 1493–1495.
- 2001 Tom L. Beauchamp, Internal and External Standard for Medical Morality. *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 26: 601–619.
- 2001 S. F. Jones and Anthony S. Kessel, The ‘Redefinition of Death’ Debate: Western Concepts and Western Bioethics. *Science and Engineering Ethics* 7: 63–75.
- 2000 Carson Strong, Specified Principlism: What is it, and Does it Really Resolve Cases Better Than Casuistry? *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 25: 323–341.
- 2000 Anthony S. Kessel, The Ethics of Unlinked Anonymous Testing–Reply. *British Medical Journal* 320: 1276.
- 2000 Greg Welty, An Examination of Theistic Conceptual Realism as an Alternative to Theistic Activism. Unpublished M.Phil. dissertation. Oxford University.
- 1998 M. D. Walz, Theological and Philosophical Dependencies in Saint Bonaventure’s Argument Against an Eternal World and a Brief Thomistic Reply. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 72: 75–98.
- 1998 B. Andrew Lustig, Concepts and Methods in Recent Bioethics: Critical Responses. *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 23: 445–455.
- 1998 W. J. van der Steen, Forging Links Between Philosophy, Ethics, and the Life Sciences: A Tale of Disciplines and Trenches. *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* 20: 233–248.
- 1998 Mark Kuczewski, Casuistry and Principlism: The Convergences of Method in Biomedical Ethics. *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics* 19: 509–524.
- 1998 A. Leist, Applied Ethics Between Theoretical Demands and Social Function. *Deutsche Zeitschrift fur Philosophie* 46: 753–779.
- 1998 Anthony S. Kessel and J. Meran, Advance Directives in the UK: Legal, Ethical, and Practical Considerations for Doctors. *British Journal of General Practice* 48: 1263–1266.
- 1998 Anthony S. Kessel, “Confidentiality May Be Overhauled. *British Medical Journal* 316: 56–57.
- 1997 Steven Baldner, St. Bonaventure and the Demonstrability of a Temporal Beginning: A Reply to Richard Davis. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 71: 225–236.

- 1995 Lawrence B. McCullough, Preventive Ethics, Professional Integrity, and Boundary Setting—The Clinical Management of Moral Uncertainty. *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 20: 1–11.

## **SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES/AWARDS**

### **Conference Presentations**

- 2019 From Parts to Whole (and Back Again): Rowe on Clarke on the Cosmological Argument. Toronto Philosophy of Religion Works-In-Progress Workshop.
- From Parts to Whole (and Back Again): Rowe on Clarke on the Cosmological Argument. EPS Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- 2018 Where the Bootstrapping Really Lies (with Paul Gould). EPS Annual Meeting, Providence RI.
- 2016 Brian McLaren’s Gospel of Hospitality. ETS Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- 2015 On Plantingean Pro-Theism: Transworld Depravity, Incarnation, and Atonement (with Paul Franks). EPS Annual Meeting, Atlanta GA.
- On Plantingean Pro-Theism: Transworld Depravity, Incarnation, and Atonement (with Paul Franks). The Axiology of Theism Conference. Ryerson University (Toronto, Canada).
- On Plantingean Pro-Theism: Transworld Depravity, Incarnation, and Atonement (with Paul Franks). Toronto Philosophy of Religion Works-In-Progress Workshop.
- 2014 Theism and the Counterpossible Consensus. Ryerson Philosophy Department Speakers’ Series.
- Counterpossibles and the ‘Terrible’ Divine Command Deity (with Paul Franks). EPS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Counterpossibles and the ‘Terrible’ Divine Command Deity. University of New Brunswick Philosophy Colloquium.
- 2013 Counterpossibles and the ‘Terrible’ Divine Command Deity (with Paul Franks). Toronto Philosophy of Religion Works-In-Progress Group.
- Against a Postmodern Pentecostal Epistemology (with Paul Franks). EPS Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MA.
- 2008 The Conceptualist Argument Revisited. EPS Annual Meeting, Providence, Rhode Island.
- 2006 God and Counterpossibles. EPS Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
- 2004 Anselm, Platonism, and Perfect Islands. Pacific Division Meeting of the APA, Pasadena.
- 2002 Haecceities, Individuation, and the Trinity. EPS Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.



- 2002 Is There Design in the Shroud? CPA and CSCP Annual Meeting, University of Toronto.
- 2000 Is Plantinga's Model of Warranted Theistic Belief Epistemically Circular? CPA and CSCP, Annual Meeting, University of Alberta. [Respondent: Alvin Plantinga]
- 1997 Zagzebski, Counterpossibles, and the Dependence Problem. American Catholic Philosophical Association, Annual Meeting, Buffalo, NY.
- 1996 Zeis, Berkeley, and Counterpossibles. CPA, Annual Meeting, Brock University.
- 1995 The Principlism Debate. Canadian Graduate Students' Conference in Philosophy, University of Manitoba.
- 1994 Hare's 'Going-Meta' Ethics. Ontario Philosophical Association, York University.
- 1994 Talmage's 'Diotic' Cosmological Argument. CSCP, Annual Meeting, University of Calgary.

### **Invited Lectures/Panels**

- 2017 Hasker's 'Good News'?: Materialism is Out, Soul-Fields are In." Keynote address at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society of Christian Philosophers, Ryerson University.
- 2005 Individuating Gods. Graduate Seminar: Aquinas and the Metaphysics of Theism, Biola University, La Mirada, CA.
- 2005 God and Possible Worlds. Graduate Philosophy Colloquium, Biola University, La Mirada, CA.
- 2005 Counterpossibles and Christianity. Graduate Seminar: Metaphysics I, Biola University, La Mirada, CA.

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

Apologetics of C.S. Lewis  
 Atheism  
 Belief, Truth and Knowledge  
 Bioethics  
 Business Ethics  
 Clarke and His Critics  
 Critical Thinking  
 Ethics and Medical Research  
 Ethics, Death and Dying  
 History of Philosophy I  
 History of Philosophy II  
 Introduction to Philosophy  
 Metaphysics  
 Metaphysics of Theism

Modern Philosophy  
 Moral Questions & Social Policies  
 Philosophy of Religion  
 Philosophy of Science  
 Reasoning and Philosophy  
 Symbolic Logic  
 The Analytic Tradition  
 The Possibility of Knowledge  
 The Quest for Meaning  
 War and Morality  
 Western Thought

## **SERVICE**

### **University**

Academic Planning Committee	2018-2019
Writing Across the Disciplines Committee	2018-2019
Search Committee, Business Administration	2018-2019
University Task Force	2016-2017
Search Committee, Biblical Studies	2016-2017
Academic Planning Committee	2013-2014
Chair, Department of Philosophy	2011-2014
Academic Planning Committee	2011-2014
Presidential Search Committee	2008-2010
Dean's Search Committee	2004-2005
Research Ethics Committee	2003-2004
Promotion and Tenure Committee	2003-2013
Search Committee, Philosophy Department	2003-2004
Advisor, Leading Edge Program	2003-2004
Search Committee, Philosophy Department	2002-2003
Co-Director, Leading Edge Program	2001-2002
Director, Leading Edge Program	2000-2001
Academic Standards Committee	2000-2002

### **Profession**

Referee: *American Philosophical Quarterly, Canadian Philosophical Association, Erkenntnis, Journal of Analytic Theology, Journal of Philosophical Research, Philosophia, Philosophia Christi, Philosophical Papers, Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Religion.*

Chair: Author Meets Critics: John Leslie's Infinite Minds, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, 2002. Main speakers, John Leslie (Guelph University) and Robin Collins (Messiah College).

Chair: Two Ends of Practical Reason, Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society of Christian Philosophers in conjunction with the Canadian Philosophical