

# JASON A. BEYER

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Division of Humanities, Fine Arts and Social Sciences  
Illinois Valley Community College  
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### EDUCATION HISTORY

Ph.D. in Philosophy; *magna cum laude*; Loyola University of Chicago; August 2003.  
Dissertation: *God and Explanation: A Defense of Philosophical Naturalism*.  
Dissertation Supervisor: Paul K. Moser.

M.A. in Philosophy; *magna cum laude*; Loyola University of Chicago; January 1998.  
Master's Thesis: *The Presumption of Atheism: Theism, Atheism, and the Burden of Proof*. Thesis Supervisor: J. D. Trout.

B.A. in Philosophy (with honors); *cum laude*; University of Wisconsin at Parkside; May 1995.  
Philosophy Honors Paper: Point of View in Leibniz' Metaphysics and Relativity Theory. Honors Supervisor: A. Aaron Snyder.

B.S. in Psychology (with honors); *cum laude*; University of Wisconsin at Parkside; May 1995.

**Main Areas of Teaching:** Critical Thinking, Ethics, Philosophy of Religion, World Religions

**Other Significant Areas of Research Interest:** Alternative School Movement, Existentialism, Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Human Sexuality (History, Psychology and Sociology), Liberation Philosophies (Critical Race Theory, Feminism, Marxism, Queer Theory), Nietzsche, Psychology of Human Judgment

**Recent Areas of Research:** Alternative School Movement, Early Christian History (especially canon transmission and formation), Eighties Film and Music, Existentialism, Nietzsche, Walden III Middle and High School History

### PROFESSIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Illinois Valley Community College, Aug. 2006 to present; tenured since 2009.

Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, College of Lake County, Jan. 1999 to July 2006.

Lecturer in Philosophy, Loyola University of Chicago, June-July 1998; May 1999-May 2000.

Teaching Assistant, Loyola University of Chicago, Aug. 1995 to May 1999.

#### **PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS**

*A Comparison of Judeo-Christian Theism and Philosophical Naturalism as Explanatory World-Views.* Lewiston, N.Y.: The Edwin Mellen Press, 2007.

#### **PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS: ARTICLES**

Reply to Nagasawa. *Sophia*, **45.2** (2006): 127-130.

A Physicalist Rejoinder to a Problem with Omniscience; or, How God Can Know What We Know. *Sophia*, **43.2** (2004): 5-13.

Public Dilemmas and Gay Marriage: Contra Jordan. *Journal of Social Philosophy*, **33.1** (2002): 9-16.

Is the Current Practice of Psychotherapy Morally Permissible? *International Journal of Applied Philosophy*, **15.1** (2001): 85-105.

What Kind of Self Does Liberalism Need? *Nexus: A Forum for Ideas*, **4** (2001): 28-35.

Epiphenomenalism and the Eliminative Strategy. *Kinesis*, **26.1** (1999): 18-36

#### **PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS: BOOK REVIEWS**

Review of Louis P. Pojman, editor, 'Philosophy of Religion, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.' *Teaching Philosophy*, **26.4** (2003): 386-389.

Review of John D. Caputo, 'On Religion'. *APA Newsletters*, **02.2** (Spring 2003): 236-237.

Review of William Lane Craig, general editor, 'Philosophy of Religion'. *Teaching Philosophy*, **26.2** (2003): 184-188.

Review of Amélie Oksenberg Rorty, editor, 'The Many Face of Evil'. *Teaching Philosophy*, **25.4** (2002): 364-369.

Review of David M. Rosenthal, editor, 'Materialism and the Mind-Body Problem, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.' *Teaching Philosophy*, **25.3** (2002): 258-261.

Review of Stuart Brown, 'Philosophy of Religion'. *Teaching Philosophy*, **25.2** (2002): 174-178.

Review of Paul Helm, editor, 'Faith and Reason'. *Teaching Philosophy*, **24.4** (2001): 421-424.

Review of Keith Yandell, 'Philosophy of Religion'. *Teaching Philosophy*, **24.3** (2001): 292-295.

Review of Louis Greenspan and Stefan Andersson, editors, 'Russell on Religion'. *Teaching Philosophy*, **24.2** (2001): 175-178.

Review of Holmes Rolston III, 'Genes, Genesis, and God'. *Teaching Philosophy*, **24.1** (2001): 87-91.

Review of Paul Thagard, editor, 'Mind Readings'. *Teaching Philosophy*, **23.4** (2000): 407-409.

Review of Michael L. Peterson, 'God and Evil'. *Teaching Philosophy*, **23.3** (2000): 303-305.

Review of Nicholas Wolterstorff, 'Divine Discourse'. *Auslegung*, **23.1** (2000): 99-113.

See my Amazon book reviews [here](#).

#### **NON-PROFESSIONAL AND PRE-PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS**

'80s Rewind: Characters, Music Revived. *I.V. Leader* (I.V.C.C.), September 1, 2022: 5. {Full piece online under the title "'Totally Gnarly': '80s Music Returns": <https://ivleader.com/top-stories/2022/09/01/totally-gnarly-80s-music-returns/>}

Timeline of Walden III. Ed. and abridged by Timothy Haynes. In *Walden III Middle and High School Yearbook 2021-2022*, pp. 6-9. Racine, WI: Racine Unified School District. May 2022.

Celebrating Walden III as Its 50th Year Begins. *Racine Journal Times* (Racine, WI), August 29, 2021: A4.

Tribute to Charles "Chuck" Kent. *Word of Walden* online school newsletter, April 16, 2021.

An Open Letter to Walden Seniors. *Racine Journal Times* (Racine, WI), May 22, 2020: A5.

Mindless Drivel: Special Moving Day Edition (with Paul S. Klimek III). June 2018.

Freedom of Religion. *Bureau County Republican* (Princeton, IL), April 4, 2017. {Invited piece by Voices from the Prairie.}

Differences between Islam, Christianity Not "Vast". *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), September 10-11, 2016: C4.

Columnist Displays Lack of Understanding of Muslims. *I.V. Leader* (I.V.C.C.), December 3, 2009: 4.

The Faith of a Secularist. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), April 30, 2008: A4. {This the last of my bi-weekly columns for the Write Team.}

Coming Out of Homophobia. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), April 16, 2008: A4.

History More than Learning One Date after Another. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), April 2, 2008: A4.

Gay People Our Biggest Threat? *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), March 19, 2008: A4.

Eliminating Handguns Reduces Violence. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), March 6, 2008: A4.

"War on Terror" an International Farce. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), February 20, 2008: A4.

Education Helps Us See the Big Picture. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), February 6, 2008: A4.

Whites Are Still Systematically Privileged. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), January 23, 2008: A4.

Democracy is Much More than Majority Rule. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), January 9, 2008: A4.

Time for Sun to Set on Capital Punishment. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), December 27, 2007: A4.

Freedom from Religion: Not Just for Atheists Anymore. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), December 12, 2007: A4.

How Has Morality Become Evil? *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), November 28, 2007: A4. {My submitted title was "When 'Morality' Becomes Evil".}

Why Remembering the Armenians is Important. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), November 14, 2007: A4. {This is the first of my bi-weekly columns for the Write Team.}

True Confessions: I'm a Heterosexual. *I.V. Leader* (I.V.C.C), October 25, 2007: 3.

Super-Thin Celebrities Send Wrong Message to Women. *News Tribune* (LaSalle, IL), September 21, 2007: 3. {My submitted title was "Mixed Messages about Women's Bodies". The title the editor gave it significantly misrepresents the content.}

Scandal Exists Because of Anti-Gay Prejudice. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), August 31, 2007.

Darfur: Act Now Before It's Too Late. *The Times* (Ottawa, IL), April 22, 2007.

Marriage Evolves Through the Ages. *Daily Herald* (Lake County, IL), June 24, 2006: 16.

Science, 'Intelligent Design' Are Not Equal. *Daily Herald* (Lake County, IL), April 26, 2006: 18.

U.S. Charity Needed Around World, Too. *Daily Herald* (Lake County, IL), September 14, 2005: 10.

Remember Holocaust by Challenging Hate. *Daily Herald* (Lake County, IL), May 2, 2005: 12.

Writer Uses Rhetoric Like a Terrorist Does. *Daily Herald* (Lake County, IL), March 28, 2005: 10.

Ryan Has Nothing to Be Ashamed Of. *Daly Herald* (Lake County, IL), June 30, 2004: 17.

Debate Ideas with Dignity, Not Vulgarity. *Daily Herald* (Lake County, IL), January 18, 2004: §1, 16.

Remembering Holocaust Important for Society. *Lake Villa/Lindenhurst Review* (Lake Villa, IL), April 25, 2002, 12-13.

Stem Cell Research Morally Acceptable. *Lake Villa/Lindenhurst Review* (Lake Villa, IL), August 30, 2001: 18, 20.

Abortion Legality is Complicated. *Lake Villa/Lindenhurst Review* (Lake Villa, IL), August 16, 2001: 22-23.

Affirmative Action Critics Distort Key Statistics. *Gurnee Review* (Gurnee, IL), April 26, 2001: 19. {Reprinted with deleted sections restored as "Affirmative Action Remains Necessary", *Gurnee Review* (Gurnee, IL), May 10, 2001: 20.}

Mom's March Letter in Poor Taste. *Libertyville Review* (Libertyville, IL), June 22, 2000: 24.

Hunting, Population Control, and Third-World States. *The First Amendment* (U. Wisconsin-Parkside), 2.1 (September 1993): 6.

Addendum on Rights. *The First Amendment* (U. Wisconsin-Parkside), 1.2 (May 1993): 13.

By What Right? *The First Amendment* (U. Wisconsin-Parkside), 1.1 (April 1993): 6, 11.

Dude Youre Green; *Dude Youre Green*. Racine, WI: Kandy Ant Records, 1992. Guest percussion and chanting (along with Chad and Nathan Goldesberry and Adam Olson) on the song "Self-Violence".

Et. al., editors; *Spilled Ink 1989-1990*. Racine, WI: Walden III Junior and Senior High, 1990.

The Last Rabid Dog. *Off the Wall* (Walden III), 1.4 (April 1990): 4, 9.

Rabid Dog Standardized School Board Member Attitude Test. *Off the Wall* (Walden III), 1.3 (March 1990): 6.

Mindless Drivel (with Paul S. Klimek III and April Krukowski). 2.1 (February 26, 1990).

The Rabid Dog vs. Ann Landers. *Off the Wall* (Walden III), 1.2 (February 1990): 14.

The Rabid Dog {vs. the District Assessment Center}. *Off the Wall* (Walden III), 1.1 (February 1990): 7.

Mindless Drivel (with Paul S. Klimek III, April Krukowski, and Thomas M. Feeney). 1.2 (October 18, 1989). {Contains my first named "Rabid Dog" column.}

Mindless Drivel (with Paul S. Klimek III and April Krukowski). 1.1 (October 4, 1989).

Et. al.; *Walden Lampoon: The Explosive Issue*. Racine, WI: Walden III Junior and Senior High, 1989.

### **WORK IN PROGRESS**

A History of Walden III Middle and High School; in process. Intended for either private or online publication.

## PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

More Than Montessori: Innovative Women in Educational Reform Movements. Presented for Women's History Month at I.V.C.C.; Mar. 19, 2025.

The Alternative Education Movement of the 60's and 70's: Problems, Programs, and Impact. Presented under I.V.C.C.'s Office of Continuing Education; Oct. 29, 2024.

Atheism: Biases, Myths, and Realities. Presented as part of the I.V.C.C. Diversity Team's religious diversity programming; October 17, 2016; and re-presented October 16, 2017.

Served on a faculty panel for a screening of the documentary *In Whose Honor?* for Native American History Month at I.V.C.C.; November 5, 2014.

Served on open forum faculty panels for Darwin Day at I.V.C.C.; 2009-2014.

What Do We Really Know About Mary Magdalene? Presented for Women's History Month at I.V.C.C.; March 14, 2011.

Served on a faculty and student discussion panel for the documentary film *Every War Has Two Losers* for Tiffany Bruch's nursing management project at I.V.C.C.; September 20, 2010.

Wikipedia—Yay or Nay? Presented with Amanda Cook-Fesperman for I.V.C.C.'s Faculty In-Service; August 17, 2010.

Multicultural Education. Presented with Amanda Cook-Fesperman et al for I.V.C.C.'s Faculty/Staff Enrichment Day; January 13, 2010.

Between Fences Program on Religious Diversity; moderator and co-presenter. Presented at the Princeton (IL) Public Library; April 15, 2009. Sponsored by a grant from the Smithsonian Institute.

Creating a Multicultural Learning Environment. Presented with Amanda Cook-Fesperman et al for I.V.C.C.'s Faculty/Staff Enrichment Day, October 10, 2008.

Served on a discussion panel for the documentary film *For the Bible Tells Me So* for Adam Maubach's nursing management project at I.V.C.C.; October 7, 2008.

Book Discussion of Michael Eric Dyson's *Come Hell or High Water: Hurricane Katrina and the Color of Disaster*. Organized at I.V.C.C. for Black History Month; February 22, 2008.

Served as discussion moderator at I.V.C.C. for the P.T.K. satellite seminar "How to Win a Cosmic War" by Reza Aslan; December 4, 2007.

Whose Marriage Is It, Anyway?: Myth, Meaning, and Privilege in the Dispute over Same-Sex Marriage. Presented on behalf of the Gay/Straight Alliance at I.V.C.C. for National Coming Out Day; October 10, 2007.

Homosexuals as Enemies of the State: Nazi Germany, 'Family Values', and the War on Terror. Presented on behalf of the Gay/Straight Alliance at I.V.C.C. for the Day of Silence; April 18, 2007.

The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Presented for the International Brown Bag Lunch Faculty Forum series at I.V.C.C.; April 18, 2007.

Book Discussion of Elie Wiesel's *Night*. Organized at I.V.C.C. for Holocaust Remembrance Day; April 16, 2007.

Maternal Fetal Abuse Laws: Political Agendas, Social Harms. Presented for Women's History Month at I.V.C.C.; March 21, 2007.

The Ethics of Sales: Beyond Caveat Emptor. Presented for Students in Free Enterprise at I.V.C.C.; February 28, 2007.

Torture: Weapon Against Terror, or Weapon of Terror? Presented with Kim Abel et al at I.V.C.C.; November 16, 2006.

Without a Prayer: The Debate Over the Separation of Church and State in America. Presented with Amanda Cook-Fesperman for I.V.C.C.'s Constitution Day celebration; Sept. 18, 2006.

Finding God in All Things: A Theory of Religious Experience. Presented to the Integrative Studies Department of Arizona State University West; February 28, 2005.

Did two guest presentations (on Cartesian Dualism and the Ontological Argument) in Tom Feeney's philosophy class at Walden III High School in Racine, WI; Spring 2002.

### **AWARDS, HONORS, AND RECOGNITIONS**

Selected to serve as the Walden III alumni contact for Racine Unified School District in regard to the demolition of the Franklin Building; November 2020-July 2021. (This involved identifying items of interest to alumni, coordinating alumni obtainment of said items, and recovering important school effects left behind.)

Steven Charry Memorial Teaching Excellence Award (nominated); Illinois Valley Community College; 2019-2020.

Certificate of Recognition (for commitment to student success); Illinois Valley Community College; March 2010.

Recognition on the Wall of Tolerance; National Campaign for Tolerance; May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2002.

Graduate Teaching Assistantship (competitive); Loyola University of Chicago; Fall 1995 to Spring 1999.

Graduate Tuition Fellowship (competitive); Loyola University of Chicago; Fall 1995 to Spring 1999.

1994-1995 Distinguished Service Award; Parkside Student Government Association; May 1995. I was the first person in the organization's history to receive this recognition at multiple positions.

Awarded lifetime membership, Psi Chi (National Honors Society for Psychology); April 1995.

1991-1992 Distinguished Service Award; Parkside Student Government Association; May 1992.

1991-1992 Emerging Leader Award; University of Wisconsin-Parkside; May 1992.

### **COLLEGE OR COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Faculty Co-Sponsor, Socrates Café. I.V.C.C.; January 2024-present.

Hiring Committee, Electronic Resources Librarian, I.V.C.C.; November-December 2023.

'Today in Red Apple History' feature on the I Went to Red Apple Elementary School Facebook Group; July 2023-May 2024.

Co-Moderator, Walden III Alumni Facebook Group; December 2021-present.

'Today in Walden History' feature on the Walden III Alumni Facebook Group; June 2021-June 2022.

Hiring Committee, Public Services Library Technician, I.V.C.C.; June-July 2018.

Hiring Committee, Public Services Library Technician, I.V.C.C.; October-November 2017.

Associate of Arts Program Outcomes Workgroup, I.V.C.C.; February-April 2017.

Faculty Sponsor, Round Table Gaming Club, I.V.C.C.; September 2014 to present.

Hiring Committee, Public Services Library Technician, I.V.C.C.; October-November 2014.

Faculty Co-Sponsor, Gender/Sexuality Alliance, I.V.C.C.; October 2013 to present.

Faculty Sponsor, Osaka (Anime Club), I.V.C.C.; April 2013 to present.

Faculty Sponsor, Students for Liberty, I.V.C.C.; September 2011-May 2012.

Hiring Committee, Public Services Librarian, I.V.C.C.; November 2011-March 2012.

Hispanic Outreach Team, I.V.C.C.; June-September 2009.

Summer Multicultural Institute, I.V.C.C.; May 2009.

S.O.U.P. Team, I.V.C.C.; March 2009 to May 2019. I have served on the Evaluating Sources, Respecting Intellectual Property and Media Literacy projects.

Summer Multicultural Institute, I.V.C.C.; June 2008.

Volunteer "Write Team" columnist for *The Times (Ottawa, IL)*; November 2007 to May 2008.

Northern Illinois University L.G.B.T. ally training; October 2007.

Honors Team, I.V.C.C.; February 2007 to May 2009. (I helped design the honors portfolio; and planned and taught the first honors course under the new program.)

Notarized voter registrar for the State of Illinois, 2006-2012.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (formerly Diversity Team), I.V.C.C.; September 2006 to present; Interim Chair September 2007 to May 2008.

I.V.C.C. Core Values and Leadership Retreat; May 14-15, 2007.

### **RECENT PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

AFT/IFT; current

American Association of Philosophy Teachers; 2011-2018, 2021-2022

American Philosophical Association; current

Phi Delta Kappa; current

Psi Chi; lifetime membership since 1995

Radical Philosophy Association; current