

*Curriculum Vitae*

**BRIAN C. RIBEIRO**

Department of Philosophy and Religion  
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga  
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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Philosophy, Vanderbilt University, 2001  
M.A. Philosophy, Vanderbilt University, 1999  
B.S. Psychology, Mississippi College, 1996

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Epistemology  
Early Modern Philosophy (*especially Montaigne & Hume*)  
History & Significance of Skepticism (*Ancient, Early Modern, & Contemporary*)

**ADDITIONAL AREAS OF INTEREST**

Philosophy of Religion (*especially the problem of evil & contemporary religious epistemology*)  
Moral & Epistemic Psychology (*emotions, humor, epistemic akrasia, intellectual modesty*)  
Ancient Philosophy (*especially the Hellenistic & Imperial periods*)

**AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS**

2011            Research Sabbatical Leave (competitive selection process), Fall 2011,  
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

2009            Outstanding Teacher Award for 2008-2009 (College of Arts & Sciences),  
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

2009            Summer Research Fellowship, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

2005            Summer Research Fellowship, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

2004            APA Rockefeller Prize (for my paper “Skeptical Parasitism and the  
Continuity Argument”)

2001            Franklin J. Matchette Award for Excellence in Teaching,  
Vanderbilt University

2000–2001    Interdepartmental Teaching Fellowship (Philosophy & English),  
Vanderbilt University

1999–2000    Burke Fellowship for Teaching Excellence, Vanderbilt University

1997–1999    Department of Philosophy Teaching Fellowship, Vanderbilt University

1996            Psychology Student of the Year, Mississippi College

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2010-*present* UC Foundation Associate Professor in Philosophy & Religion, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN
- 2008-2010 UC Foundation Assistant Professor in Philosophy & Religion, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN
- 2004-2008 Assistant Professor in Philosophy & Religion, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN
- 2003-2004 Lecturer in Philosophy, Belmont University, Nashville, TN
- 2002-2003 Lecturer in both Philosophy & English, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
- 2001-2002 Visiting Assistant Professor in Philosophy, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV
- 1997-2001 Teaching Assistant in Philosophy (& also in English in 2000-2001), Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

## PUBLICATIONS: ARTICLES

1. "Sextus, Montaigne, Hume: Exercises in Skeptical Cartography," *Modern Schoolman* 87 (2011), forthcoming.
2. "Philosophy and Disagreement," *Crítica* 43 (2011), forthcoming.
3. "Epistemic Akrasia," *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism* 1 (2011), forthcoming.
4. "A Really Short Refutation of the Pragmatic Theory of Truth," *Journal of Philosophical Research* 36 (2011): 31-34. [Published along with a response by Harvey Cormier: "A Fairly Short Response to a Really Short Refutation," *Journal of Philosophical Research* 36 (2011): 35-42.]
5. "The Problem of Heaven," *Ratio* 24 (2011): 46-64.
6. "Radical Epistemic Self-Sufficiency on Reed's Long Road to Skepticism," *Philosophia* 38 (2010): 789-793.
7. "Montaigne on Witches and the Authority of Religion in the Public Sphere," *Philosophy and Literature* 33 (2009): 235-251.
8. "Hume's Changing Views on the 'Durability' of Skepticism," *Journal of Scottish Philosophy* 7 (2009): 215-236.
9. "A Consistency Challenge for Moral and Religious Beliefs," (with Scott Aikin) *Teaching Philosophy* 32 (2009): 127-151.
10. "A Distance Theory of Humour," *Think* 7 (2008): 139-148.
11. "How Often Do We (Philosophy Professors) Commit the Straw Man Fallacy?," *Teaching Philosophy* 31 (2008): 27-38.

12. "Hume's Standard of Taste and the *de gustibus* Sceptic," *British Journal of Aesthetics* 47 (2007): 16-28.
13. "Must the Radical Skeptic Be Intellectually Akritic?," *Facta Philosophica* 8 (2006): 207-219.
14. "Clarke and Stroud on the Plane-Spotter," *Southwest Philosophy Review* 22 (2006): 25-32.
15. "Skeptical Parasitism and the Continuity Argument," *Metaphilosophy* 35 (2004): 714-732.
16. "Is Pyrrhonism Psychologically Possible?," *Ancient Philosophy* 22 (2002): 319-331.
17. "Cartesian Skepticism and the Epistemic Priority Thesis," *The Southern Journal of Philosophy* 40 (2002): 573-586.
18. "Epistemological Skepticism(s) and Rational Self-Control," *The Monist* 85 (2002): 468-477.

#### **PUBLICATIONS: REVIEWS**

1. Review of Bryan Frances's *Scepticism Comes Alive*, *Philosophical Books* 47 (2006): 370-372.
2. Review of Duncan Pritchard's *Epistemic Luck*, *Philosophical Books* 47 (2006): 372-374.
3. Review of Louis Loeb's *Stability and Justification in Hume's Treatise*, *The British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 12 (2004): 348-351.
4. Review of John Greco's *Putting Sceptics in Their Place*, *Review of Metaphysics* 55 (2002): 632-634.
5. Review of Panayot Butchvarov's *Skepticism about the External World*, *Review of Metaphysics* 54 (2000): 422-424.

#### **WORK UNDER REVIEW or IN PROGRESS**

- a. "Skeptical Theism, Moral Skepticism, and Divine Commands," under review at the *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism*.
- b. My primary current research focus involves developing a book manuscript (= *Sextus, Montaigne, Hume: Skepticism and Human Life*); I expect to make considerable progress on this manuscript during an upcoming sabbatical leave (in Fall 2011).

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

##### **2010**

1. "Skepticism and Epistemic Akrasia," Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 13, 2010.
2. Commentator: "Must We Always Stand By Our Convictions?," Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 13, 2010.

**2009**

3. "Skepticism and Epistemic Akrasia," Society for Skeptical Studies, at the Eastern Division meeting of the APA, December 29, 2009.
4. "I Don't Want to Go to Heaven (or Hell)," Main Program, Central Division meeting of the APA, February 21, 2009.

**2008**

5. "Hume's Changing Views on the 'Durability' of Skepticism," Society for Skeptical Studies, at the Eastern Division meeting of the APA, December 28, 2008.
6. "I Don't Want to Go to Heaven (or Hell)," Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 15, 2008.
7. "I Don't Want to Go to Heaven (or Hell)," Departmental Symposium (Philosophy and Religion), University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, October 15, 2008.
8. "I Don't Want to Go to Heaven (or Hell)," Central Division meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, Union University, May 9, 2008.
9. "Hume's Changing Views on the 'Durability' of Skepticism," Hume Society, at the Central Division meeting of the APA, April 17, 2008.

**2007**

10. "Pyrrhonism and Religion in Sextus and Montaigne," Society for Skeptical Studies, at the Eastern Division meeting of the APA, December 28, 2007.
11. "Pyrrhonism and Religion in Sextus and Montaigne," Departmental Symposium (Philosophy and Religion), University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, November 12, 2007.
12. "Pyrrhonism and Religion in Sextus and Montaigne," Tennessee Philosophical Association, October 27, 2007.
13. Commentator: "Faith as an Intellectual Virtue," Tennessee Philosophical Association, October 27, 2007.
14. "A Theory-Sketch for a Distance Theory of Humor," Popular Culture Association & American Culture Association, Joint National Meeting, April 6, 2007.

**2006**

15. "Hume's Aesthetics: Or, Grappling with the *de gustibus* Skeptic," Society for Skeptical Studies, at the Eastern Division meeting of the APA, December 28, 2006.
16. "Hume's Aesthetics: Or, Grappling with the *de gustibus* Skeptic," Departmental Symposium (Philosophy and Religion), University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, March 27, 2006.

**2005**

17. "Clarke and Stroud on the Plane-Spotters," Society for Skeptical Studies, at the Eastern Division meeting of the APA, December 28, 2005.
18. "Clarke and Stroud on the Plane-Spotters," Southwestern Philosophical Society, November 11, 2005
19. "Clarke and Stroud on the Plane-Spotters," Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 5, 2005.
20. Commentator: "An Evidence Puzzle," Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 5, 2005.

21. "The Evolution of Hume's Position on the Livability of Skepticism," Conference on "Hume and His Critics" in the Scottish Enlightenment, Baylor University, April 15, 2005.
  22. "The Evolution of Hume's Position on the Livability of Skepticism," Departmental Symposium (Philosophy and Religion), University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, April 6, 2005.
- 2004**
23. "Thinking about Disagreement: Wittgenstein's Hard Cases," Society for Skeptical Studies, at the Eastern Division meeting of the APA, December 28, 2004.
  24. "What Should a Radical Skeptic Think about His Hand?", Invited Lecture, Connecticut College, November 4, 2004.
  25. "The Problem of Disagreement in Philosophy," Invited Lecture, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, January 30, 2004.
- 2003**
26. "What Should a Radical Skeptic Think about His Hand?", Society for Skeptical Studies, at the Eastern Division meeting of the APA, December 27, 2003.
  27. "What Should a Radical Skeptic Think about His Hand?", Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 1, 2003.
  28. Commentator: "The Gettier Problem Truly Solved," Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 1, 2003.
  29. "Skepticism as a Prelude to Faith and Submission in Michel de Montaigne's 'Apology for Raymond Sebond'," Invited Lecture to the Belmont University Honors Program, October 21, 2003.
  30. "Taking Skepticism Seriously," Invited Lecture, University of Tennessee at Martin, February 10, 2003.
- 2002**
31. "Putting Overly Ambitious Contextualism in Its Place," Society for Skeptical Studies, at the Eastern Division meeting of the APA, December 28, 2002.
  32. "Putting Overly Ambitious Contextualism in Its Place," Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 16, 2002.
  33. "Thinking about Disagreement: Wittgenstein's Hard Cases," Faculty Speaker at the Annual In-House Conference, Department of Philosophy, West Virginia University, April 4, 2002.
  34. "Cartesian Skepticism and the Epistemic Priority Thesis," Society for Skeptical Studies, at the Pacific Division meeting of the APA, March 30, 2002.
  35. "Is Pyrrhonism Psychologically Possible?", Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, at the Pacific Division meeting of the APA, March 28, 2002.
  36. "Humean Psychoanalysis," West Virginia Philosophical Society, Spring Meeting, March 16, 2002.
- 2001**
37. "Is Sextus Empiricus' Tranquility Argument (*Adversus Mathematicos* 11.110-140) Pyrrhonian?" West Virginia Philosophical Society, Fall Meeting, October 13, 2001.

38. “Skepticism at Dusk: What Comes *After* the Skeptical Argument?” Invited Lecture Series, in three parts, Ashland University, April 19-21, 2001.
39. “Minimal Epistemology: Prospects and Problems,” delivered jointly with Derek Turner at the Philosophical Collaborations Conference, March 2, 2001.
40. “Is Pyrrhonism Psychologically Possible?,” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, February 24, 2001.
41. Commentator: “Semantic Externalism and Privileged Access,” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, February 24, 2001.
42. “Epistemological Skepticism and Rational Self-Control,” Colloquium Series, Department of Philosophy, Vanderbilt University, January 12, 2001.
- 2000**
43. “Skeptical Parasitism and the Continuity Argument,” Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 11, 2000.
44. “Brandom on Normativity, Objectivity, and Knowledge,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, April 21, 2000.
- 1999**
45. “Brandom on Normativity, Objectivity, and Knowledge,” Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 6, 1999.
46. Commentator: “‘Having within me the idea of God’: An Essay on Descartes’ Third Meditation,” Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 6, 1999.

## COURSES TAUGHT AT UTC

Western Philosophical Traditions I (PHIL 1010)	F’04, Sp’05, Sum’05, F’07, Sp’08, F’09, Sp’10
Western Philosophical Traditions II (PHIL 1020)	F’05, Sp’06, Sum’06, Sum’07, F’08, Sp’09
Introduction to Philosophy (PHIL 2010)	F’06, Sp’07, Sum’10, F’10, Sp’11, Sum’11
Metaphysics (PHIL 3410)	F’05, Sp’09
Epistemology (PHIL 3450)	F’04, F’07
Modern Philosophy (PHIL 3530)	Sp’05, Sp’06, Sp’07, Sp’10, Sp’11
Religious Epistemology (PHIL 4910)	F’06
The Philosophy of David Hume (PHIL 4910)	Sp’08
Philosophy of the Emotions (PHIL 4910)	F’08
Atheism & Agnosticism (PHIL 4910/ REL 4920)	F’09
History of Skepticism (PHIL 4910)	F’10
<u>PHIL 4995r Courses (= Honors Theses)</u>	
“Wittgenstein’s Aesthetics”	F’09–Sp’10 (with Devin Rutledge)
<u>PHIL 4998r Courses (= Senior Theses)</u>	
“The Philosophical Significance of Comedy”	Sp’05 (with Hannah Rutledge)
“Meaning & Knowledge in the Later Wittgenstein”	Sp’05 (with Greg Smith)
“Pragmatism & Neo-Pragmatism”	Sp’07 (with Ty O’Grady)
“Goldman’s Social Epistemology”	Sp’08 (with John Davis)

“The Gettier Problem & Its Place in Epistemology”	F’08 (with Dan Cheon)
“God, Evil, & Theodicy”	Sp’10 (with Matt Bond)
“Montaigne & Fideistic Skepticism”	Sp’11 (with Will Taylor)
“The Theistic Argument from Beauty”	Sp’11 (with Crisler Torrence)

## SERVICE

### Departmental Service

- ▶ Faculty Advisor to the Philosophy Club, August 2004 – *present*

### University Service

- ▶ Member of the Speakers & Special Events Committee, August 2010 – *present*
- ▶ Member of the Departmental Honors (DHON) Committee, August 2008 – May 2009
- ▶ Member of the Adult Scholar Advisory Council, August 2007 – May 2008
- ▶ Member of the Committee on Student Rating of Faculty Instruction, August 2006 – May 2008
- ▶ Member of the Institutional Review Board [= Committee for the Protection of Human Research Subjects], February 2005 – May 2009

### Professional Service

- ▶ Member of the American Philosophical Association’s Committee on the Teaching of Philosophy, July 2009 – *present*
- ▶ Served as a reviewer for *History of Philosophy Quarterly* (2010), *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism* (2010; 2011), *Synthese* (2007), & Wiley-Blackwell (2010).

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Philosophical Association  
Tennessee Philosophical Association  
International Society for the Study of Skepticism  
Society for Skeptical Studies  
Hume Society

**REFERENCES**

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