

## George Wrisley

### Assistant Professor of Philosophy at the University of North Georgia

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#### **Areas of Specialization**

Wittgenstein, Metaphysics,  
Philosophy of Language, and Existentialism

#### **Areas of Competence**

Epistemology, Logic, and Ethics

#### **Education**

**Ph.D. Philosophy**, University of Iowa.

**Received:** May 2008

**Dissertation:** "Realism and Conceptual Relativity." Completed under a Seashore Dissertation Year Fellowship (University-wide competition for the fellowship)

**M.A. Philosophy**, Georgia State University

**Received:** May 2002

2001-02 Semester at Universität Bielefeld, Germany to study German and work on Wittgenstein with Eike von Savigny and Joachim Schulte.

**Master's Thesis:** "Wittgenstein's Conception of the Autonomy of Language and its Implications for Natural Kinds." (Recognized as a Thesis of Distinction)

**B.A. Philosophy**, University of Georgia

**Received:** August 1998

#### **Teaching Experience**

##### **University of North Georgia**

- **Death and Awe**, 1 section (Assistant Professor) **Fall 2012**.
- **Epistemology**, 1 section (Visiting Professor) **Spring 2012**.
- **Happiness and Suffering**, 1 section (Visiting Professor) **Fall 2011**.
- **Metaphysics**, 3 sections (Visiting Professor) **Spring 2011, Summer 2012, Spring 2013**.
- **Ethics from a Global Perspective**, 8 sections (Visiting/Assistant Professor) **Summer 2011 – Spring 2013**.
- **Introduction to Philosophy**, 6 sections (Visiting Professor) **Fall 2010 – Fall 2011**.
- **Logic**, 7 sections (Visiting/Assistant Professor) **Fall 2010 – Fall 2012**.

##### **The George Washington University**

- **Introduction to Logic**, 3 sections (Adjunct Instructor) **Fall 2009 – Spring 2010**.

##### **The Catholic University of America**

- **Symbolic Logic**, 1 section (Adjunct Instructor) **Spring 2010**. Included philosophy graduate students.

##### **Texas Lutheran University**

- **Introduction to Philosophy**, 3 sections (Adjunct Instructor) **Fall 2008 – Spring 2009**.

**Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas**

- **Philosophy and Critical Thinking**, 4 sections (Adjunct Instructor) **Fall 2008 – Spring 2009**.

**Northwest Vista College, San Antonio, Texas**

- **Ethics**, 2 sections (Adjunct Instructor) **Fall 2008**.

**Teaching Experience (As Graduate Student):****University of Iowa**

- **Introduction to Philosophy**, (Instructor) **2005-2007**. Full teaching responsibility.
- **Principles of Reasoning**, (Instructor) **2004-2005**. Full teaching responsibility.
- **Philosophy and the Just Society**, Prof. Fumerton. **Spring 2004** (Discussion Leader). Responsible for facilitating weekly discussion and grading.
- **Philosophy and Human Nature**, Prof. Williams. **Fall 2003** (Discussion Leader). Responsible for facilitating weekly discussion and grading.

**Publications**

- “Davidson on the Very Idea of a Conceptual Scheme.” In *Just the Arguments: 100 of the Most Important Arguments in Western Philosophy*. Eds. M. Bruce and S. Barbone. Wiley-Blackwell: October 2011.
- “Wittgenstein’s Private Language Argument.” In *Just the Arguments: 100 of the Most Important Arguments in Western Philosophy*. Eds. M. Bruce and S. Barbone. Wiley-Blackwell: October 2011.
- “Wherefore the Failure of Private Ostension?” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*. 89:3, September 2011. 483-498.
- “Conservation Easements.” In the *Encyclopedia of Environmental Issues*. Ed. C.W. Allin. 4 Volumes. Salem Press. May 2011. 294-296.
- “Natural Capital.” In the *Encyclopedia of Environmental Issues*. Ed. C.W. Allin. 4 Volumes. Salem Press. May 2011. 858-859.
- “Escaping the Island of Ethical Subjectivism: Don’t Let Ben Help to Bring You Back.” In *Lost and Philosophy*, 2nd Edition. Ed. S. Kaye. The Blackwell Philosophy and Pop Culture Series. November 2010. [Revision of Wrisley 2007.]
- “Private Language,” with Stewart Candlish. *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Ed. E. N. Zalta. <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/private-language/> September 2008. In 2007 Candlish invited me to take over responsibility for revising the article every four years. For the 2008 edition I am responsible for sections 1.1 and 1.2, as well as minor revisions throughout.

- “The Island of Ethical Subjectivism: Not the Paradise of *Lost*.” In *Lost and Philosophy*. Ed. S. Kaye. The Blackwell Philosophy and Pop Culture Series. November 2007.
- “Rules, Language, and Reality.” *Philosophy Now: a magazine of ideas*. Issue 58. November/December 2006. 15-18.

### Review

- Review of *Wittgenstein’s Account of Truth*. By Sarah Ellenbogen. (Albany: State University of New York Press, 2003), *Philosophy in Review – Comptes rendus philosophiques*, Volume XXIII, No. 6 (2003): 383-385.

### Presentations

#### Invited Papers

- “The Buddha Still Rides a Bike: Wittgenstein, Dōgen, and the Entanglement of Language and Enlightenment.” UTCP. University of Tokyo, December 2012.

#### Refereed Conferences

- “Why Happiness is not *the* Proper End of a Human Life.” Kentucky Philosophical Association spring conference, April 2011.
- “Truth, Nonsense, and the Meaningfulness of Ostensive Gestures.” North American Wittgenstein Society group meeting at the 2010 Pacific Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association in San Francisco, March 2010.
- “Is Putnam’s Notion of Conceptual Relativity an Ontological Godsend?” Iowa Philosophical Society Conference, September 2006.
- “Realism, Putnam, and Multiple Descriptions of the World.” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, February 2006.

#### In-House Conferences

##### University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society Conferences

- “Is the Metaphysical Realist Committed to There Being One True and Complete Description of the World?” November 2006.
- “Realism and Multiple Descriptions of the World,” November 2005.
- “Nietzsche, Two Ideals, and the Meaningfulness of Suffering,” November 2004.
- “The Importance of Being Seemly: The Role of *Decorum* in Cicero’s *De Officiis*,” April 2004.

##### University of Iowa Jakobson Conferences

- “Realism, Putnam, and Multiple Descriptions of the World,” (revised) March 2006.
- “The Viability of Kuhn’s Later Notion of Local Incommensurability,” April 2005.

##### Georgia State University Phi Sigma Tau Colloquiums

- “Wittgenstein’s Conception of Grammar,” 2001.
- “Wittgenstein’s Private Language Argument,” 2000.

**Commentary**

- Commentator on: “An Affront Against Life: Nietzsche’s Critique of Christianity and His Redemption of the World” by A.J. Snelson. Kentucky Philosophical Association spring conference, April 2011.
- Commentator on: “How Not to Read Quine on Underdetermination” by Rogerio Severo. University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society spring conference, 2006.
- Commentator on: “Depicting Reality: Pictures and Isomorphism” by Todd Kukla. Midsouth Philosophy Conference, February 2006.
- Commentator on: “An ‘Understanding of PI §43 Aided by a Genetic Analysis of the *Philosophical Investigations*’ by Craig Fox. University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society spring conference, 2005.

**Scholarly Activities**

- Participant in the University of Tokyo-University of Hawaii Summer Residential Institute in Comparative Philosophy, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012 to August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012.
- Research Assistant to David Stern, 2003-2004. Journal research and proof reading for *Wittgenstein’s Philosophical Investigations: An Introduction*. (Cambridge University Press, 2004.)
- Responsible for the original English translation from the German of “Taking avowals seriously: The soul a public affair.” By Eike von Savigny. In *Working Papers from the Wittgenstein Archives at the University of Bergen*. Eds. Alois Pichler and Simo Säätelä., No. 17, 2005.
- Edited English translation, “Private Language – Private Rules – Private Sensations: A Draw Position?” By Eike von Savigny. In *Wittgenstein and the Future of Philosophy: A reassessment after 50 years*. (Wien) 2002, 389-398.

**Honors and Awards****University of North Georgia**

- Excellence Teaching Award

**University of Iowa**

- Seashore Dissertation Year Fellowship 2007-2008.
- Summer Research Fellowship, 2006.
- Teaching Assistantship 2003-2007.
- Fellowship 2002-2003.

**Georgia State University**

- *Phi Sigma Tau*, National Honor Society for Philosophy. Recognized for exceptional academic achievement and scholarship, 2000 and 2001.

**Service****To the Profession**

- Referee for the *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*
- Referee for the *Polish Journal of Philosophy*
- Referee for *Mind*
- Referee for *Philosophy East and West*

**To the University of Iowa Department and Colleagues**

- Webmaster, University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society, 2005-2008.
- Vice President, University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society, 2004-2005.
- Cofounder and Vice President of the University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society, Spring 2004.
- Co-organizer of four University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society conferences Spring 2004- Spring 2005.

**To Fellow Students**

- Senator for Graduate and Professional Student Senate, 2004-2005.

**Languages**

- Proficient in reading, writing, and speaking German

**Professional Affiliations**

- American Philosophical Association, 2005-present.
- University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society, 2004-2008.