

**SCOTT BERMAN**  
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## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. May 1990, Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Fall 1985 - Spring 1990.
- M.A. May 1987, Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Fall 1985 - Spring 1987.
- B.A. May 1984, cum laude, Philosophy and Psychology with honors in Philosophy, Tulane University. Fall 1980 - Spring 1984.

## POSITIONS HELD

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|--|----------------|
| Associate Professor<br>Department of Philosophy, Saint Louis University                  | 1997 - present |
| Academic Program Coordinator<br>Prison Education Program, Saint Louis University         | 2015 - 2025    |
| Visiting Research Fellow<br>Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol (UK)         | 2011 - 2012    |
| Visiting Academic Scholar<br>Faculty of Philosophy, University of Oxford (UK)            | 2011 - 2012    |
| Assistant Professor<br>Department of Philosophy, Saint Louis University                  | 1991 - 1997    |
| Visiting Assistant Professor<br>Department of Philosophy, University of Nebraska-Lincoln | 1990 - 1991    |

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Ancient Greek Philosophy, Contemporary Metaphysics

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Ethics, Philosophy of Mind

PUBLICATIONS

“Plato’s Ontological, but not Epistemological, Egalitarianism” in *Ground and Fundamentality in Plato and Aristotle*, edited by Richard Neels (New York: Routledge, 2026): 84-103

“Conceptual Engineering: A Footnote to Plato,” *History of Philosophy and Logical Analysis* 28 (2025): 1-13.

“Plato, Socrates, and Confederate Monuments,” *Think* 23 (2024): 11-19.

“Problems for Aristotelian universals but not Plato’s Forms: A Reply to Marmodoro,” *Dialogoi: Ancient Philosophy Today* 5.2 (2023): 214-20.

*Platonism and the Objects of Science* (London: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2020).

Paperback edition, 2021.

Reviewed by Anna Marmodoro in *Dialogoi: Ancient Philosophy Today* 5.1 (2023): 80-85.

Reviewed by Lloyd Gerson in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*  
<https://bmc.brynmawr.edu/2021/2021.07.39/>

“Prudence and Morality: Socrates vs. Moral Philosophers” *South African Journal of Philosophy* (Special Issue: On Happiness) 33 (2014): 381-94.

“A Platonic Theory of Truthmaking” *Metaphysica* 14 (2013): 109-25.

“Universals: Ways or Things?” *Metaphysica* 9 (2008): 219-234.

“A Defense of Psychological Egoism” In *Desire, Identity and Existence* (A special issue of the journal *Apeiron*), edited by N. Reshotko (Academic Printing & Publishing, 2003): 143-57.

“The Metaphysics of Plato and Aristotle” *The Modern Schoolman* 80 (2003): 165-70.

“Plato’s Explanation of False Belief in the *Sophist*” *Apeiron* 29 (1996): 19-46.

“Plato’s Refutation of Constructivism in the *Cratylus*” *Journal of Neoplatonic Studies* 2 (1994): 37-70.

“Socrates and Calicles on Pleasure” *Phronesis* 36 (1991): 117-40.

“How Polus Was Refuted: Reconsidering Plato’s *Gorgias* 474c-475c” *Ancient Philosophy* 11 (1991): 265-284.

#### EDITED COLLECTIONS

*Mass Incarceration and Racial Justice*. (with C. Flanders) Special issue of *Res Philosophica*, volume 97 (2020): 135-345. [Honorable Mention for Senior Faculty Scholarly Works Award 2022 – Office of Research at SLU.]

*The Metaphysics of Plato and Aristotle*, parts I and II. Special issues of *The Modern Schoolman* 80.3-4 (2003): 165-398.

#### REVIEWS

“Cynthia MacDonald’s *Varieties of Things*” *The Philosophical Quarterly* 56 (2006): 459-463.

“Gorman and Sanford’s *Categories: Historical and Systematic Essays*” *International Philosophical Quarterly* 46 (2006): 499-500.

“Kenneth Dorter’s *Form and Good in Plato’s Eleatic Dialogues*” *Ancient Philosophy* 16 (1996): 487-91.

“Mary Margaret McCabe’s *Plato’s Individuals*” *Modern Schoolman* 73 (1996): 356-59.

“Norman Swartz’s *Beyond Experience: Metaphysical Theories and Philosophical Constraints*” *Review of Metaphysics* 47 (1994): 845-46.

SPECIAL SESSIONS

Author Meets Critics: *Platonism and the Objects of Science* by Scott Berman. Critics: Cody Gilmore (UC-Davis) & Marshall Abrams (UA-Birmingham). Respondent: Scott Berman. Central APA meeting, New Orleans, February 2021.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS - Invited

“Conceptual Engineering: A footnote to Plato,” Keynote address at Conceptual Engineering and its Place in the History of Philosophy conference, sponsored by The Institute of Philosophy II at Ruhr-Universität Bochum and the Department of Philosophy at the University of Warsaw, at Ruhr-Universität Bochum Germany, February 2024.

“Platonism and the Objects of Science.” University of Durham, Durham UK, June 2023.

“A Scientific Explanation of Ethical Truths: A Proposal.” St. Louis Area Philosophy of Science Association meeting, Edwardsville, IL, April 2023.

“Disjunctivist Neo-Russellianism.” (with Joel Carini). Collaborations Conference, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Carbondale, IL, March 2023

“Plato and the Objects of Thought.” Philosophizing with the Greats, University of Oxford, Oxford UK, March 2022.

“Platonism and the Objects of Science.” University of Denver, Denver CO, March 2020. Marisco Scholar 2020.

“Higher Education in Prisons.” Public lecture. Denver, CO, March 2020.

“Plato, Socrates, and Confederate Monuments.” Lincoln University, Jefferson City, MO, November 2017

“Moral Psychology: A Debate” (with Chad Flanders, Law School at SLU) ERDCC (Missouri State Penitentiary) Bonne Terre, MO, December 2016.

“Philosophy vs. Rhetoric: A Debate” (with Paul Lynch, English Dept at SLU) ERDCC (Missouri State Penitentiary) Bonne Terre, MO, September 2014

“Plato’s Ultimate Building Blocks: Things or Structures?” University of Oxford, UK, February 2012

“Why Plato, and not Aristotle, was right about things.” University of Bristol, UK, November 2011

“Comments on Prof. Eric Brown’s “Eudaimonia in Plato’s *Republic*.” at the Law and Happiness conference at the Law School, Saint Louis University, May 2011

“Comments on Prof. Chad Wiener’s “Recollection and the Method of Hypothesis in Plato’s *Meno*.” Presented at the American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver, Canada, April 2009

“Plato’s Metaphysics of Modality in the *Sophist*.” Presented at The Fourteenth Annual Arizona Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy, University of Arizona-Tucson, February 2009

“Comments on Prof. Chris Tillman’s “Necessarily, Everything Necessarily Exists.” Presented at the American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, April 2008

“Comments on Prof. Jeremy Kirby’s “Subterranean Epistemic Blues: The Role of The Forms in Everyday Discourse.” Presented at the American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, April 2007

“Plato on What Analytic Philosophers Have In Mind.” Keynote address at Gateway Graduate Student Conference: Building Bridges, University of Missouri-St. Louis, April 2007

“Universals: The Ways of Aristotle or The Things of Plato?” Presented (with Jonathan Nelson) at “Philosophical Collaborations: A Conference for Faculty and Graduate Student Interaction. 2007 Theme: Memory and Culture.” Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, March 2007

“Socratic Intellectualism.” Presented at *Plato and Socrates: Desire, Identity, and Existence* held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, September 2001

“Comments on Prof. Christopher Shields’s “The Logos of ‘Logos’: *Theaetetus* 206c-210b.” Presented at *The Arizona Colloquium on Plato* held at the University of Arizona-Tucson, March 1997

“Plato and False Beliefs” Presented (with David Loy) at “Philosophical Collaborations: A Conference for Faculty and Graduate Student Interaction. 1995 Theme: Intentionality.” Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, April 1995

“Plato’s Explanation of False Belief in the *Sophist*.” Presented to the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy at their national meeting, Binghamton, NY, October 1994

“Philosophy and Psychology on Weakness of Will.” Keynote Address delivered to Psi Chi (The Psychology Honors Society), Saint Louis University, St. Louis, May 1993

PAPER PRESENTATIONS - Submitted

“STEM Education in High Security Prisons.” Presented at STEM-OPS, St. Louis, MO, October 2022

“Higher education with staff in prisons.” Presented at the National Conference for Higher Education in Prison, Denver, CO, November 2021.

“The relation between abstract and concrete things.” Presented at the Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association Meetings held at the University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom, July 2020

“Vulnerability and Moral Formation in Arts Relationships.” Co-presented with Ilene Berman (SLU, Fine & Performing Arts) at the Educating Character Through The Arts conference held at the University of Birmingham, UK, July 2018.

“Plato, Socrates, and Confederate Monuments.” Presented at the Mid-South Philosophy Conference held at the Rhodes University, Memphis, TN, March 2018

“Logical Possibility is Not Real Possibility.” Presented at the Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association Meetings held at the University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, July 2017

“A Scientific Defense of Socrates’ Ethical Truths.” Presented at the Society of Ancient Greek Philosophy held at Fordham University, New York, NY, October 2016.

“A Platonic Philosophy of Science.” Presented at the Spanish Society for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science held at the University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, July 2015.

“An Ontological Defense of Socrates’ Ethical Truths.” Presented at the International Plato Society conference held at Emory University, March 2015.

“Aristotle’s Ontological Pluralism.” Presented at the Society of Ancient Greek Philosophy held at Fordham University, New York, NY, October 2014

“Plato’s Theory of Perceptibles.” Presented at the Society of Ancient Greek Philosophy held at Fordham University, New York, NY, October 2013

“Socrates, Complexity, and *Akrasia*.” Presented at the International Plato Society conference held at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, October 2012

“Identity Truthmakers.” Presented at the Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association Meetings held at the University of Stirling, Stirling, United Kingdom, July 2012

“Structuralism, Identity and Necessary Relations.” Presented at the Structure and Identity conference held at the University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom, July 2010.

“Universals: Ways or Things?” Presented at the Eidos Metaphysics Conference held at the University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland, July 2008

“Universals, Particulars and Geography: Let Aristotle Rest In Peace.” Presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Portuguese Society for Analytic Philosophy held at the University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal, June 2006

“Cratylean Naturalism: Why Cratylus is an Anti-Realist.” Presented at the Society of Ancient Greek Philosophy held at Fordham University, New York, NY, October 2004

“Realism, Anti-Realism, and the Nature of Mind-Dependency.” Presented at the Mid-South Philosophy Conference held at the University of Memphis, Memphis, TN, February 2003 (Commentator: Don Merrell, Arkansas State University)

“Plato on the cause of coming-to-be at *Timaeus* 28a4-6.” Presented at the Society of Ancient Greek Philosophy, Binghamton, NY, October 1995

“Plato’s Refutation of Constructivism in the *Cratylus*.” Presented at the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Binghamton, NY, October 1994

“Plato’s Refutation of Constructivism in the *Cratylus*.” Presented to the Society for Realist/Anti-Realist Discussion at the Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Kansas City, May 1994

“A Socratic Argument for Psychological Egoism.” Presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Conference on Value Inquiry at Drew University, Madison, New Jersey, April 1994

“Socrates on Moral Goodness.” Presented to the Society for the Contemporary Assessment of Platonism at the Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, San Francisco, March 1991

#### WRITTEN WORK IN PROGRESS

“A Scientific Explanation of Socrates’ Ethical Truths.”

#### AWARDS

Finalist for the Excellence Award in Graduate Mentoring, College of Arts and Sciences, Saint Louis University, Spring 2019.

Finalist for the Donald G. Brennan Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching, College of Arts and Sciences, Saint Louis University, Spring 2018

“Housing and Residence Life Faculty Excellence Award,” Saint Louis University, Spring 2009

Finalist for the Helen Mandeville Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, College of Arts and Sciences, Saint Louis University, Spring 2003

Teacher of the Month, February 1993

#### INTERVIEWS

“Does Science Prove Platonism?” Interviewed by Joe Schmid at *Majesty of Reason*, July 2021.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZrDMkQQ6aGg>

“On Platonism.” Interviewed by Alex Malpass at *Thoughtology*, June 2017.  
<http://thoughtology.podbean.com/e/episode-5-scott-berman-on-platonism/>

“The Platonist.” Interviewed by Richard Marshall at *3:AM Magazine*, June 2012.  
<https://316am.site123.me/articles/the-platonist>

#### GRADUATE SEMINARS

Plato’s Ethics	Saint Louis University
Plato & Contemporary Metaphysics	Saint Louis University
Aristotle & Contemporary Metaphysics	Saint Louis University

Plato's Epistemology	Saint Louis University
Plato's Metaphysics	Saint Louis University
Aristotle's Metaphysics	Saint Louis University
Aristotle's Ethics	Saint Louis University
Contemporary Metaphysics	Saint Louis University
Philosophy of Language	Saint Louis University
Realism and Anti-Realism	Saint Louis University
Socratic Ethics	Goethe University Frankfurt
Plato's Metaphysics	Goethe University Frankfurt
Social Contract Theory	University of Nebraska-Lincoln

### UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

History of Ancient Greek Philosophy	Saint Louis University
Contemporary Metaphysics	Saint Louis University
Philosophy of Language	Saint Louis University
Philosophy & Art	Saint Louis University
Introduction to Philosophy	Saint Louis University
Honors Introduction to Philosophy	Saint Louis University
Ethics (& Honors Ethics)	Saint Louis University
Ethics & Moral Psychology	FCI (Federal Penitentiary, Greenville, IL)
Introduction to Philosophy	ERDCC (Missouri State Penitentiary)
Ethics	ERDCC (Missouri State Penitentiary)
Philosophy & Art	ERDCC (Missouri State Penitentiary)
Philosophy & Film	ERDCC (Missouri State Penitentiary)
Philosophy and Current Issues	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Philosophy of Mind	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Elementary Logic	University of Nebraska-Lincoln

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Referee for *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Oxford University Press*, *Routledge*, *Dialogoi*, *Journal of Ethics*, *Critical Education*, *Polity Press*, *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, *Res Philosophica*, *Review of Metaphysics*, *Ancient Philosophy*, *Phronesis*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *History of Philosophy Quarterly*, *Journal of Value Inquiry*, and *Dialogue*.

### AFFILIATIONS

American Philosophical Association, Central Division

The Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy  
Society for the Metaphysics of Science

LANGUAGES

Ancient Greek  
Italian