

Courtney Fitzsimmons, Ph.D.

Whitman College
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Education

Ph.D. University of Chicago, Theology, 2010

A.M. University of Chicago, Divinity, 2003

B.A. Boston University, Philosophy, 2000

Academic Appointments

2015- present	Assistant Professor of Religion, Whitman College
2010 – 2014	Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion, Whitman College
2009 – 2010	Lecturer, The College, University of Chicago
2004 – 2009	Instructor, Department of Philosophy, St. Xavier University

Grants and Awards

Summer 2012	Louse B. Perry Summer Research Award, Whitman College Global Studies Workshop, Mellon Foundation, Whitman College
Fall 2011	Abshire Research Scholar Award, Whitman College
2005- 2007	Evangelical Lutheran Church of America Grant for Advanced Theological Studies
Spring 2006	Wabash Fellowship in Pedagogy and the Study of Religion, University of Chicago
Winter 2004	Jerald C. Brauer Seminar Fellowship, University of Chicago
2003-2006	Ph.D. Tuition Fellowship, University of Chicago
2002-2003	A.M. Tuition Fellowship, University of Chicago
Summer 2002	Divinity School Summer Language Study Stipend (German), University of Chicago

Book Project

Yearning for God: Religion and the Moral Imagination in Iris Murdoch and Franz Rosenzweig:
A monograph-length study of the concept of love in Murdoch and Rosenzweig's moral theory and hermeneutics.

Conference Papers

- “The Imagined Mother: A Townesian Analysis of the 2012 Contraception Debate”, Society of Christian Ethics, Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, January 2013.
- “If there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things: St. Paul and Murdoch’s *Metaphysics as a Guide to Morals*”, Sixth International Iris Murdoch Conference, Kingston University, London, UK, September 2012.
- “The Sea is like the Flesh: Correlations of Augustine’s reading of Genesis and Iris Murdoch’s *The Sea, The Sea*”, American Academy of Religion, Regional Meeting, Spokane, WA, May 2011.
- “Shared Love: Franz Rosenzweig on Judaism and Christianity,” American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, November 2008.

Courses Taught

Whitman College

Religion

Evil and Suffering
 Introduction to Judaism
 Christian Ethics
 Modern Western Religious Thought II: 20th Century
 Modern Jewish Thought
 Jewish Ethics
 Gender & Identity in Judaism
 Jewish Mysticism
 Independent Study: Apocalyptic Literature
 Independent Study: Rosenzweig’s *The Star of Redemption*

Philosophy

Modern Jewish Thought

General Studies

Encounters: Ancient & Modern
 Encounters: Transformations

University of Chicago

Human Being and Citizen (Humanities Core Curriculum)

St. Xavier University

The Examined Life (Introduction to Philosophy)

Professional Memberships

American Academy of Religion
 Association for Jewish Studies
 The Society of Christian Ethics
 The Society of Jewish Ethics
 Iris Murdoch Society

Professional and Service Activities

Service to the Discipline

Regional Editor, Central Europe, Database of Religious History, 2015-present

Referee for *The Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*, 2015

Convener, “Event, Process, Structure: Paul Ricoeur and the Hermeneutics of Christian Tradition” by Michael Sohn, The Society for Christian Ethics, Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, January 2014

Service to Whitman***Committees***

Elected Member, Encounters Curriculum Subcommittee, Whitman College (2012-14)

Campus Service (Non-committee)

- Pre-major advisor for first & second-year students
- Major advisor in Religion
- Whitman Writing Fellows: Mentor advanced students to assist with writing instruction
- Presentations to Encounters Faculty
 - *Texts, Temptation and Transformation in Augustine’s Confessions* (Fall 2013)
 - *Exercises in Using Evidence* (Spring 2013)
 - “*This one shall be called Woman*”: *Genesis, Qur’an and de Beauvoir* (Fall 2012)
 - *Exodus in Encounters* (Fall 2011)

Languages

German (reading, proficient)

French (reading)

Related Teaching Experience

University of Chicago: Humanities Writing Intern, The College, 2006-2010

Writing instructor for the courses “Human Being and Citizen” (2006-2007) and “Philosophical Perspectives” (2007-2010) in the Humanities Core Curriculum. Received 10 weeks of training in college writing instruction.

Related Professional Experience

Ethics Consultant and Researcher, Office of the Inspector General, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (March – June 2010)

Advised the Inspector General and her staff on ethics issues pertaining to the use of polygraph testing in evaluating parents suspected of child abuse. Conducted research into the ethics of polygraphs testing, and its use in regards to child abuse and sex offenders.

Ethics Coordinator, Office of the Inspector General, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (June 2005 – June 2007)

Advised the Inspector General and her investigators on ethics issues. Conducted investigations into ethical misconduct by child welfare professionals. Designed and implemented ethics trainings for child welfare professionals. Provided ethics consultation for the child welfare field and the Department.

Ethics Research Assistant, Office of the Inspector General, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (July 2002 – October 2003)

Conducted research on ethics issues at the request of the Ethics Coordinator. Wrote and edited “Handbook on Pastoral Care for Child Welfare Professionals.” Edited ethics training materials designed and distributed by the office. Assisted Ethics Coordinator in conducting investigations.