

## Nicholas A. Oschman

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### AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:

Medieval Philosophy, Philosophy in the Lands of Islam, Political Philosophy, History of Ethics

### AREAS OF COMPETENCE:

History of Philosophy, Greek Philosophy, Jewish Philosophy, Ethics, Kant

### EDUCATION:

- Ph.D. Marquette University**, Philosophy, August 2020  
Dissertation: *Al-Fārābī, Metaphysics, and the Construction of Social Knowledge: Is Deception Warranted if it leads to Happiness?*  
Committee: Richard C. Taylor (Chair), David Twetten (Second Reader), Luis Xavier López-Farjeat (External Reader, Universidad Panamericana), Owen Goldin
- B.A. Vanderbilt University**, *magna cum laude*, 2010  
Philosophy, Religious Studies, and minor in Jewish Studies  
High Honors in Philosophy
- Hebrew University of Jerusalem**, 2016  
Intermediate Intensive Arabic Immersion

### EMPLOYMENT:

**2020-2021:** Postdoctoral Fellow with *The Christian West and Islamic East: Theology, Science, and Knowledge* funded by the John Templeton Foundation at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

### ARTICLES:

**2018:** “The Constitution of the Intellect and the Fārābīan Doctrine of First and Second Intention” in *Phänomenologische Forschungen* 2018, Volume 2, “Intention and Intentionality in Phenomenology and Medieval Philosophy.” Eds. Jörn Müller and Michela Summa. pp. 45-59.

## CHAPTERS IN PRINT:

**2013:** “On Bended Knee: *Futurama* on Epistemic Distance as a Precondition for Soul Building” in *Futurama and Philosophy*. Eds. Courtland Lewis and Shaun P. Young. New York: Open Court Publishing. pp. 159-170.

**(Forthcoming):** “Interview with Thérèse-Anne Druart” in *Festschrift in Honor of Thérèse-Anne Druart*.

## EDITED VOLUMES:

**2021 (Forthcoming):** *Premodern Philosophy in the Greek, Hebrew, Arabic, and Latin Traditions. Essays in Honor of Richard C. Taylor*. Co-Edited with Luis Xavier López-Farjeat and Katja Krause.

**2021 (Forthcoming):** *Festschrift in Honor of Thérèse-Anne Druart*. Co-Edited with Richard C. Taylor and Timothy B. Noone.

## WORK IN PROGRESS:

**In Preparation:** *Noble Lies: Plato, al-Farabi, and the Politics of Untenable Truth-Telling*.

**In Preparation:** *Mr. Gorgias, A Fictional Retelling of Plato's Argument for Being a Good Person while Making a Sale*.

**In Preparation:** “Al-Fārābī and the Ikhwān al-Ṣafā on the Qualities Required for Excellent Political Leadership.”

**In Preparation:** “Al-Fārābī and Averroes on the Three Modes of Public Discourse.”

**In Preparation:** “You’ve got to be Joking! Socrates’ Comedic Self-Portrayal to Crito in the *Euthydemus*.”

## HONORS AND AWARDS:

**2020:** Postdoctoral Fellowship with *The Christian West and Islamic East: Theology, Science, and Knowledge* funded by the John Templeton Foundation. University of Missouri-St. Louis. St. Louis, MO.

**2012:** Ph.D. Fellowship. Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI.

**2009:** *Vanderbilt Undergraduate Summer Research Project (VUSRP)* Competitive Research Fellowship. Vanderbilt University. Nashville, TN.

**2006:** Eldon Stevenson Full Academic Scholarship. Vanderbilt University. Nashville, TN.

#### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS:**

**2018:** “Plato’s and al-Fārābī’s Conceptions of Political Deception” at Universidad Panamericana. Mexico City, Mexico.

**2017:** “Two Philosophical Critiques of Prophecy: Abū Bakr al-Rāzī and Abū Naṣr al-Fārābī on the Preeminence of Natural Reason” at the *University of Toronto Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy 2017* at the University of Toronto. Toronto, Canada.

**2017:** “Translating Truth into Images in al-Fārābī’s Polis” at *Translating Experience: Medieval Encounters with Nature, Self, and God* at Durham University. Durham, England.

#### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:**

**2021: (Forthcoming)** “Taqlīd and the Fārābīan Tradition” at the *Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’ International Working Group Spring/Summer 2021 International Meeting*. London, UK.

**2019:** “Al-Fārābī and Political Deception” at the *Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’ International Working Group Spring 2019 International Meeting*. Pisa, Italy.

**2019:** “Abū Naṣr al-Fārābī and the Ikhwān al-Ṣafā’ on Political Imagination” at the *International Congress on Medieval Studies* sponsored by the *Society of Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy*. Kalamazoo, MI.

**2018:** “Two Philosophical Critiques of Prophecy: Abū Bakr al-Rāzī and Abū Naṣr al-Fārābī on the Preeminence of Natural Reason” at the *2018 Annual Fall Workshop of The Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’ International Working Group* at Universidad Panamericana. Mexico City, Mexico.

**2018:** “Al-Fārābī and Maimonides on the Conditions of Prophethood” at *Philosophy in the Abrahamic Traditions* at the University of Denver. Denver, CO.

**2016:** “What is the status of Plato’s ‘knowledge of existing things insofar as they are existent’ according to al-Fārābī?” at the *2016 Annual Fall Workshop of The Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’ International Working Group* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI.

**2016:** “The Metaphysical Implications of the Fārābīan Doctrine of First and Second Intentionality” at *Intention and Attention. A Joint Venture between Phenomenology and History of Philosophy* at the Institut für Philosophie: Universität Würzburg. Würzburg, Germany.

**2016:** “Are we certain we are virtuous? Al-Farabi on first principles and demonstration within ethics” at the *International Congress on Medieval Studies* sponsored by the *Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’ International Working Group*. Kalamazoo, MI.

**2016:** “Justice for the Other: Aquinas and Maimonides on the Treatment of Religious Minorities” at the *Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’: Fourth Annual On-Line International Graduate Student Workshop* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI.

**2016:** “The Early Fārābīan Doctrine of Creation” at *Special Seminar: Divine Will, Creation, and Providence in Arabic Philosophy* sponsored by the *Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’ International Working Group* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI.

**2015:** “Ibn Tufayl’s Endorsement of Avicenna’s Epistemological Account of Prophecy over the Farabian Model” at *Philosophy in the Abrahamic Traditions* at the University of Denver. Denver, CO.

**2015:** “Considering Human Free Choice and Prophecy: al-Fārābī on Future Contingency” at the *International Congress on Medieval Studies* sponsored by the *Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’ International Working Group*. Kalamazoo, MI.

**2014:** “Reflections on the Agent Intellect: Situating the Place of al-Farabi’s *Epistle on the Intellect* within his Broader Corpus” at the *Annual Fall Workshop on Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’* at University of St. Thomas. Houston, TX.

**2014:** “From the Agent Intellect: Interpreting the Agent Intellect’s Role in Human Knowledge in al-Fārābī” at *Philosophy in the Abrahamic Traditions* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI.

**2014:** “You’ve got to be Joking! Socrates’s Comedic Self-Portrayal to Crito in the *Euthydemus*” at the *American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division*. San Diego, CA.

**2014:** “The Prophets’ Knowledge of Future Particulars: al-Farabi on the Metaphysical Status of the Determinacy of Future Events” at the *Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’: Second Annual On-Line International Graduate Student Workshop* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI.

**2013:** “The Role of Desire and Hylomorphism in Aquinas’s Argument from Motion” at the *Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’: International On-Line Student Graduate Workshop* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI.

**2013:** “Ibn Tufayl and the Beatific Vision: Attainment and Discourse” at the *Illinois Medieval Association Annual Conference*. Chicago, IL.

**2012:** “Response to the Wild: Levinas and the American Wilderness” at the *Graduate Conference in Aesthetics*. Philadelphia, PA.

**2012:** “Levinas and Wild Preservation: A Case Study of Katahdin” at *Still Life: Stony Brook University Philosophy and Art Conference* at Stony Brook University. New York, NY.

**2009:** “The Essence of Religion” at the *Steven Humphrey Student Philosophy Colloquium* at the University of Louisville. Louisville, KY.

#### **CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS:**

**2018:** “Al-Fārābī’s Justification for the Construction of Social Knowledge” at the *Midwest Seminar in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI.

**2015:** “On a Lonely Island: Ibn Tufayl’s Mystical Response to Avicennian and Farabian Aristotelianism” at the *Midwest Seminar in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI.

**2013:** “You’ve got to be Joking! Socrates’s Comedic Self-Portrayal to Crito in the *Euthydemus*” at the *Symposium on Plato and Drama* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI.

**2010:** “Mysticism” (Honors Thesis Defense) at Vanderbilt University. Nashville, TN.

**2009:** “God and Biology” at *Vanderbilt Undergraduate Summer Research Project* at Vanderbilt University. Nashville, TN.

## CONFERENCE/LECTURE SERIES ORGANIZATION:

**2021:** “Classical Philosophy in the Lands of Islam and its Influence (A Workshop) I & II” at the *International Congress on Medieval Studies* sponsored by the *Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’ International Working Group*. Kalamazoo, MI. Organizer and Presider.

**2020-2021:** *The Christian West and Islamic East Lecture Series* 2020-21, part of *The Christian West and Islamic East: Theology, Science, and Knowledge* project in conjunction with the *Aquinas and “the Arabs” International Working Group (AAIWG)*. International Lecture Series over Zoom. Co-Organizer.

**2019:** “Classical Philosophy in the Lands of Islam and its Influence (A Workshop) I & II” at the *International Congress on Medieval Studies* sponsored by the *Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’ International Working Group*. Kalamazoo, MI. Organizer.

**2019:** *Seventh Annual On-Line International Live Video Graduate Student Workshop Sponsored by the Graduate Student Chapter of Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI. Adviser.

**2018:** *Sixth Annual On-Line International Live Video Graduate Student Workshop Sponsored by the Graduate Student Chapter of Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI. Adviser and Co-Presider.

**2017:** “Classical Philosophy in the Lands of Islam and its Influence (A Workshop)” at the *International Congress on Medieval Studies* sponsored by the *Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’ International Working Group*. Kalamazoo, MI. Organizer and Presider.

**2017:** *Fifth Annual On-Line International Live Video Graduate Student Workshop Sponsored by the Graduate Student Chapter of Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI. Organizer and Presider.

**2016:** *Fourth Annual On-Line International Live Video Graduate Student Workshop Sponsored by the Graduate Student Chapter of Aquinas and the ‘Arabs’* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI. Organizer and Presider.

**2015:** *Third Annual On-Line International Live Video Graduate Student Workshop Sponsored by the Graduate Student Chapter of Aquinas and*

*the 'Arabs'* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI. Organizer and President.

**2014:** *Second Annual On-Line International Live Video Graduate Student Workshop Sponsored by the Graduate Student Chapter of Aquinas and the 'Arabs'* at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI. Co-Organizer.

#### **TEACHING CERTIFICATIONS:**

**Marquette University, 2012**  
Marquette Philosophy Department Teaching Seminar

**Marquette University, 2019**  
Facilitating an Online Course: Seminar for Faculty

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

**Introduction to Philosophy:** Instructor at Belmont University. Spring 2020 (2) & Fall 2019 (2).

**Theory of Ethics:** Instructor at Marquette University. Spring 2015 (2) & Fall 2014 (2).

**Philosophy of Human Nature:** Instructor at Marquette University. Spring 2014 (2) & Fall 2013 (2).

#### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

**Aquinas and the 'Arabs' International Working Group:** International Congress on Medieval Studies Coordinator. Joined 2019.

**Graduate Student Chapter of the Aquinas and the 'Arabs' International Working Group:** Founding Chair. Joined 2014.

**Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy:** Joined 2013.

**American Philosophical Association:** Joined 2013.

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

**2017:** “The *Gorgias* and Business Ethics”, a community reading group designed to examine how Plato would have approached contemporary ethical issues in the world of finance. Nashville, TN. Creator, Organizer, and Instructor.

**2014:** *Phi Beta Lamda National Leadership Competition*. Nashville, TN. Business Ethics Judge.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:**

**2012-13:** Graduate Student Research Assistant for Marquette University Press. Milwaukee, WI.

**2009-11:** Research Assistant to Lenn E. Goodman at Vanderbilt University. Nashville, TN.

## **LANGUAGE, HIGHEST COURSE LEVEL:**

**Arabic:** Intermediate Intensive Arabic Immersion at Hebrew University. Jerusalem, Israel. 2016.

**Latin:** Latin for Reading Knowledge at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI. 2014.

**French:** French for Reading Knowledge at Marquette University. Milwaukee, WI. 2014.

**Hebrew:** Intermediate Hebrew at Vanderbilt University. Nashville, TN. 2009.



## REFERENCES:

### **Richard C. Taylor**

Professor of Philosophy, Marquette University, & member De Wulf  
Mansion Centre for Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy, K. U.  
Leuven, Belgium

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