

SUNY Oneonta  
Undergraduate Philosophy Conference  
April 16-18, 2009

Tentative Schedule (4/07/09)

Abstracts & additional details are available on the web: [www.oneonta.edu/pc](http://www.oneonta.edu/pc)

**Thursday (April 16)**

**7:30-9:30 pm Welcoming Reception**

**Friday (April 17)**

**8:00-9:30 Breakfast** (Le Café – reservations required)

**9:00-9:30 Welcome by President Nancy Kleniewski *et al*** (Craven Lounge)

**9:30-11:00 Sessions IA & IB**

**IA: Love, Death and Absurdity in Existentialist Literature** (Craven Lounge)

Session Chair: Nicole Hauk

*Camus and the Absurdity of Existence in ‘Waiting for Godot’*

Angela Hotaling – SUNY Oneonta (Oneonta, NY)

Discussant: Dave Mauch (University of Texas)

*The Love of Death in Richard Wagner’s “Tristan und Isolde”*

Michael DiSiena – Siena College (Loudonville, NY)

Discussant: Matthew Chick (SUNY Potsdam)

**IB: Metaphysics, Mysticism and Mental Causation** (Morris 103)

Session Chair: Thor Kasenko

*Mental Causation and the Physical World: A Moorean-Reidian Approach*

Brian Ballard – University of California (Santa Cruz, CA)

Discussant: **TBA**

*Metaphysics, Mysticism and the Relaxation of Concepts*

Joe Holmes – University of Mary Washington (Fredericksburg, VA)

Discussant: **TBA**

**11:15-12:15 Yoga: Philosophy and Guided Meditation** (Craven Lounge)

Ashok Malhotra (SUNY Oneonta)

**12:15-1:30 Lunch** (Otsego Grille – reservations required)

**1:30-3:30 Sessions IIA & IIB**

**IIA: Asian and Comparative Philosophy** (Craven Lounge)

Session Chair: Jeremy Redlien

*Reevaluating Nietzsche and Buddhism: Active and Passive Nihilism*

Jared Lincourt – SUNY Fredonia (Fredonia, NY)

Discussant: Joe Holmes (University of Mary Washington)

*The Problem of Intellectual Elites in Ibn Tufayl, Pascal, Nietzsche, and Leo Strauss*

Alan Herbert (Aish) – University of Hawaii (Manoa, HI)

Discussant: Andrew Stoecker (SUNY Oneonta)

*Language: A Problem of Particularity*

Jeffery Culver – DePaul University (Chicago, IL)

Discussant: **TBA**

SUNY Oneonta Undergraduate Philosophy Conference  
April 16-18, 2009

**IIb: Truth and Trust: Marriage and the Art of Forgery** (Morris 103)

Session Chair: Elisabeth Levine

*Kantian Aspects in Marriage Counseling*

Anna Nowik – Seton Hall University (South Orange, NJ)

Discussant: Kimberly Houseworth (SUNY Oneonta)

*The Forger & the Oeuvre*

Jake M. Bartholomew – University of Alaska (Anchorage, AK)

Discussant: Michael Corry (SUNY Oneonta)

**3:30-4:00 Coffee Break**

**4:00-5:30 Session IIIA & IIIB**

**IIIA: Free Will and Determinism (Could it be any other way?)** (Craven Lounge)

Session Chair: Sasha Meyer-Porco

*The Determinist's Dilemma: It could be another way*

Aaron Krivitzky – Middlebury College (Middlebury, VT)

Discussant: Emma Francis (SUNY Oneonta)

*Renaissance Fatalism*

Zachary Robbins – Youngstown State University (Youngstown, OH)

Discussant: Daniel Fryer (John Jay College – Manhattan, NY)

**IIIB: Heidegger and Kierkegaard** (Morris 103)

Session Chair: Ashley Barnes

*Thinking the Nothing*

Samuel J. Sanchez – University of Massachusetts (Boston, MA)

Discussant: Amanda Davis (SUNY Oneonta)

*A Third Interpretation of Kierkegaard's Attunement in "Fear and Trembling"*

Jean Ryan – Elmira College (Elmira, NY)

Discussant: Jeremy Redlien (SUNY Oneonta)

**6:00-7:30 President's Banquet** (Otsego Grille - reservations required)

**7:30-9:00 Keynote Address: Thomas E. Jackson** (University of Hawaii)

*Children, Philosophy, and the Loss of Wonder:*

*Who's responsible? What's to be done?* (Craven Lounge)

**9:00-11:00 President's Reception** (Le Café)

**Saturday (April 18)**

**8:30-9:30 Breakfast** (Le Café - reservations required)

**9:30-11:00 Sessions IVA & IVB**

**IVA: Political Revolution (Marx & Arendt)** (Craven Lounge: 9:30-11:00)

Session Chair: Andrew Stoecker (SUNY Oneonta)

*Karl Marx's Critique of Modernity through His Understanding of Ideology*

Christopher Paul Graves – The University of Houston-Downtown (Houston, TX)

Discussant: **TBA**

*Arendt's Lost Treasure: Fragments of a Philosopher's Fantasy*

Sunyoung Park – The New School (New York, NY)

Discussant: **TBA**

**IVB: Philosophy of Mathematics (Time & Language)** (Morris 103: 9:30-11:00)

SUNY Oneonta Undergraduate Philosophy Conference  
April 16-18, 2009

Session Chair: Michael Corry

*The Mathematics of Aristotle's Theory of Time*

Michael Barkasi – Kutztown University of Pennsylvania (Kutztown, PA)

Discussant: **TBA**

*What Does it Mean to Define?*

Jeremy Redlien – SUNY Oneonta (Oneonta, NY)

Discussant: Jeffery Culver (DePaul University)

**11:00-11:30 Coffee Break**

**11:30-1:30 Sessions VA, VB & VC**

**VA: Religion, Ethics, and Society (God, Animals & Nazis)** (Craven Lounge)

Session Chair: Emma Francis

*The Presumption of Positive Atheism*

Landon Hedrick – Northwest Missouri State University (Maryville, MO)

Discussant: David Naples (SUNY Oneonta)

*Religion, Speciesism, and the Past and Future of Ethics Toward Animals*

Adam Edmondson – University of Central Missouri (Warrensburg, MO)

Discussant: Nicole Hauk (SUNY Oneonta)

*Little Eichmanns: an Examination of the Nazi Conscience*

Dave Mauch – University of Texas (Austin, TX)

Discussant: Sasha Meyer-Porco (SUNY Oneonta)

**VB: Philosophy of Science (Darwin, Human Nature & Female Orgasm)** (Morris 103)

Session Chair: Joe Karpel

*Darwin's Benevolent Idea*

Kevin Busch – University of Chicago (Chicago, IL)

Discussant: Will Hancock (SUNY Potsdam)

*Getting Clear About Human Nature: Young's Dilemma*

Rhett Greenfield – Saint Mary's College of Maryland (Saint Mary's City, MD)

Discussant: Andrew Stoecker (SUNY Oneonta)

*Is the Female Orgasm an Adaptation?*

Whitney Paige Green – University of Illinois at Chicago (Chicago, IL)

Discussant: Elisabeth Levine (SUNY Oneonta)

**VC: Freedom, Possible Worlds, and Identity over Time** (Morris 104)

Session Chair: Amanda Davis

*The Illusion of Choice*

Brian Miller – SUNY Oneonta (Oneonta, NY)

Discussant: Brian Ballard (University of California, Santa Cruz)

*Undressing the Machine:*

*Necessitarianism and the Impossibility of Other Possible Worlds in Spinoza's System*

Shae Deven Chang – University of Hawaii (Manoa, HI)

Discussant: Geoffrey Vanderwoude (SUNY Potsdam)

*Roquentin Persistence*

James R. Jones – SUNY Oneonta (Oneonta, NY)

Discussant: **TBA**

**1:30-4:00 Awards Banquet** (Otsego Grille – reservations required)