

David G. Henderson
Curriculum Vitae
Associate Professor
Philosophy and Religion
Western Carolina University

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Education

Ph.D. Texas A&M University, 2008, Philosophy

Ph.D. Advisor: John J. McDermott

Dissertation Title: "Wilderness: The History, Significance and Promise of an American Value"

M.S. Texas A&M University, 2006, Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences

B.A. (*Summa Cum Laude* and Honors) Bryan College, 2002, Liberal Arts, minors in Mathematics and Greek

Areas of Specialization in Philosophy:

Environmental Philosophy, Ethical Theory

Areas of Competence in Philosophy:

American Philosophy, Philosophy of Law, Logic

Areas of Competence in Biology:

Ecology, Herpetology, Conservation Biology

Essays and Articles

"Hunting Ethics: Reflections from a (Mostly) Vegetarian Hunter" in *Hunting and the Ivory Tower: Essays by Scholars who Hunt*, eds. David Bruzina and Douglas Higbee, (Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 2018).

"Philosophy of American Wilderness," *The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, ISSN 2161-0002, (September 2014): <http://www.iep.utm.edu/am-wild>.

"Bugbee's Wilderness: Metaphysical and Montanan," *The Pluralist* 8.3 (Fall 2013): 46-54

"Creation Care," *Taking Christian Moral Thought Seriously*, eds. Jeremy A. Evans and Daniel Heimbach (Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2011): 177-197.

"Valuing the Stars: On the Economics of Light Pollution," *Environmental Philosophy* 7:1 (Spring 2010): 17-26.

"The Possibility of Managing for Wilderness," *Environmental Ethics* 31 (Winter 2009): 413-429.

Other Publications

Review of *Wilderness in America: Philosophical Writings*, Henry Bugbee, ed. David W. Rodick (New York: Fordham University Press, 2017) in *Ethics & the Environment* 24:2 (Fall 2019): 67-72.

- Review of *Mountaintop Mining in Appalachia: Understanding Stakeholders and Change in Environmental Conflict*, Susan F. Hirsch and E. Franklin Dukes (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2014) in *Environmental Values* 25:2 (April 2016): 244-246.
- Review of *The Future of Ethics: Sustainability, Social Justice, and Religious Creativity*, Willis Jenkins (Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2013) in *The Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 83:1 (March 2015): 267-269.
- Review of *Mountains of Injustice: Social and Environmental Justice in Appalachia*, eds. Michele Morrone and Geoffrey L. Buckley (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2011) in *Environmental Values* 21:4 (November 2012): 539-541.
- Review of *Beyond Naturalness: Rethinking Park and Wilderness Stewardship in an Era of Rapid Change*, eds. David N Cole and Laurie Yung (Washington, D.C.: Island Press, 2010) in *Environmental Ethics* 33:3 (Fall 2011): 335-336.
- “Earth Day Reflections at Western,” *Faculty Forum* 23:8 (April 2011): 1-2.
- “Let There Be (Incandescent) Light,” *Washington Post*, October 2, 2009: A21.
- “Geographic distribution. *Lampropeltis calligaster*,” *Herpetological Review* 38:3 (September 2007): 355.
- “Evangelicals are Conservationists,” *Conservation Biology* 19:6 (December 2005): 1687-1688.
- Un-reviewed writings at www.medium.com/@henderda

Academic Presentations and Panels

- “Climate of Trust,” *Pecha Kucha & Panel Night on the Impacts of Climate Change*, November 15, 2019, Western Carolina University.
- “Wilderness, the Anthropocene and the Perils of Abstraction,” *The Humanities in the Age of Globalization*, November 1, 2019, Akaki Tsereteli State University, Kutaisi, GE.
- “Environing with McDermott,” *In an American Strand: John J. McDermott Memorial Celebration and Symposium*, October 5, 2019, Texas A&M University.
- “Environmental Ethics,” *Flora, Fauna, & Flow: Environmental & Legal Issues and What You Need to Know*, sponsored by the Freshwater Land Trust and Bradley, October 17, 2019, Birmingham Zoo.
- “Southern Appalachia in Conservation History,” *Rooted in the Mountains*, September 27, 2019, Western Carolina University.
- “Tending the Wilderness: Reimagining Our Place in Nature,” *Welcome to the Anthropocene*, Global Spotlight Series, March 6, 2019, Western Carolina University.
- “On the Balance of Nature,” *Annual Meeting of the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences*, June 21, 2018, American University.

“The Gavilan and the Gila: Aldo Leopold, Two Rivers and Wilderness,” UNESCO World Philosophy Day, November 7, 2018, Western Carolina University.

“Wilderness and the UnAmerican Mind,” *Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy*, March 8-10, 2018, Indianapolis, IN.

“Thoreau: The Defender of Violence in the Nonviolent Canon,” *The Limits of Non-Violence: What’s the Line?* February 27, 2018, Western Carolina University.

“Wilderness: PanAmerican and Cosmopolitan,” *Twenty-First Annual Meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy*, October 23, 2017, Memphis, TN.

“Pragmatic Conceptions of Nature in the Anthropocene,” session: “Environmental Pragmatism: 20 Years Later,” *Annual Meeting of the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences*, June 24, 2017, University of Arizona.

“Tapping the Legacy of Chico Mendes,” *The TransAmerican Experience Conference*, November 7, 2015, University of Oregon.

“Teaching Environmental Values through Nature Journaling,” presented as part of a panel: “Toward a Philosophy of Sustainability: Engaging Eco-Pragmatism in the Classroom,” *2015 Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy*, March 7, 2015, Grand Valley State University.

“Wilderness: The History and Significance of an American Idea,” *Center for Life Enrichment*, July 22, 2014, Highlands, NC.

“Bugbee’s Wilderness, Metaphysical and Montanan,” *40th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy*, March 9, 2013, Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

“Bugbee’s Wilderness, Metaphysical and Montanan,” *Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Religious Studies Association*, November 2011, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill.

“Creation Care: the Moral and Religious Significance of Nature in Christian Scripture and Tradition,” *Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Religious Studies Association*, November 3, 2012, University of North Carolina – Wilmington.

Invited Panelist, “Too Much (Or Not Enough) Free Speech? Constitutional Protections under the First Amendment and U.S. Elections,” Hosted by the Public Policy Institute for Constitution Day, September 17, 2012, Western Carolina University.

“On the Possibility of Managing for Wilderness,” *Biology/Environmental Studies Departmental Seminar Series*, January 19, 2012, University of North Carolina – Asheville.

“Is it Possible to Manage Wilderness?” *Biology Department Paul Burton Seminar Series*, January 23, 2009, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina. (Earlier presentation of the same paper.)

“On the Possibility of Managing for Wilderness,” *Philosophy Department Colloquium Series*, December 4, 2007, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. (Earlier presentation of the same paper.)

Invited Panelist, “Reflections by Former Students,” *The Nectar is in the Journey: A Celebration of the Life and Work of John J. McDermott*, March 15, 2009, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

“Alexander von Humboldt and Henry David Thoreau: The Romantic Influence on the American View of Nature,” *Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy*, March 14, 2009, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. This is a national conference.

Invited Panelist, “Perspectives on the Future of Environmental Ethics: A Graduate Student Panel,” *Future Trends in Environmental Philosophy*, A joint meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy and the International Society for Environmental Ethics, June 4, 2004, Allenspark, Colorado.

“Moral Pluralism: The Greening of Kantian Ethics,” *2004 WFSC Student Symposium*, February 21, 2004, College Station, Texas.

“Approximate Truth,” *Realia—43rd Annual Summer Conference: Contemporary Issues in Philosophy of Science*, August 19, 2003, Digby, Nova Scotia.

Professional Positions

Western Carolina University

- Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religion, 2008-2015
- Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religion, 2015-present
- Director of Environmental Science Program, 2017-present

Texas A&M University – Research Assistant to Distinguished Professor John J. McDermott, 2003-2008
Involved extensive editorial work, especially on *The Drama of Possibility* cited below.

Curatorial Internship – Texas Cooperative Wildlife Collection, Summer 2005

Teaching Experience

Western Carolina University

- PAR 102 Western Moral Traditions
- PAR 230 Legal, Scientific and Critical Reasoning
- PAR 311 Philosophy of Science
- PAR 313 Philosophy of Law
- PAR 330 American Wilderness Ethics and Aesthetics
- PAR 333 Environmental Ethics
- PAR 393 Seminar in Pragmatism
- PAR 495 Senior Seminar/Capstone
- ES 250 Environmental Science Sophomore Seminar
- ES 495 Senior Capstone
- USI 130 University Experience

Texas A&M University

- PHIL 111 Contemporary Moral Issues
- PHIL 314 Environmental Ethics
- PHIL 240 Introduction to Logic
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, PHIL 482 Engineering Ethics

St. Michael's Academy

- Philosophy and Logic Instructor (high school students), 2003-2008

Professional Development

Participated in the "Reading Retreat in Umbria on Restoration and Rewilding," Monte Castello di Vibio, Umbria, Italy, June 11-21, 2017.

Awarded Scholarly Development Assignment for Spring 2017 to work on a manuscript: *Tending the Wilderness: Natural Science and the Love of Nature..*

Awarded a Professional Development Grant of \$1200 to attend "The Stewardship of Public Lands: Politics and the Yellowstone Ecosystem," an AASCU faculty seminar to be held in Yellowstone National Park, July 29 – August 3, 2013.

Participated in two-day training in the Blackboard LMS provided by the Coulter Faculty Center of Western Carolina University, July 13-14, 2010.

Participated in "Online Course Development Day," a workshop provided by the Coulter Faculty Center of Western Carolina University on the pedagogy of online instructional technology, August 11, 2009.

Received micro-grant for instructional enhancement to attend a summer workshop in "Scientific Illustration" with Nancy Lowe at the Highlands Biological Station in Highlands, NC, May 11-16.

Field Experience

Fitzgerald Herpetology Lab at Texas A&M: As a graduate student of Lee Fitzgerald's, I did extensive biological fieldwork. I often spent a week or more at a time in the field working on the Mescalero Sands Ecosystem and *Sceloporus arenicolus*. I also assisted with many undergraduate herpetology class field trips.

Herpetological Independent Study Group: From December 29, 2007 to January 11, 2008, I travelled with HISG to Talamanca, Costa Rica. There we did herpetological species inventory work for the Science Center of the Kéköldi Indigenous Reserve.

Awards and Honors

Douglas Greenlee Prize, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 2013

Highest Academic Achievement Award, Bryan College 2002

Current Professional Society Memberships

Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences

Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy

Acknowledgments (I'm listed in the acknowledgements of the following books)

Herzog, Hal. *Some We Love, Some We Hate, Some We Eat: Why it's so Hard to Think Straight about Animals*. New York: HarperCollins, 2010.

The Basic Writings of Josiah Royce. vols. 1 & 2. ed. John J. McDermott. New York: Fordham University Press, 2005.

McDermott, John J. *The Drama of Possibility: Experience as Philosophy of Culture*. ed. Douglas Anderson. New York: Fordham University Press, 2007.