SCOTT M. WILLIAMS

Curriculum Vitae

237 Whitesides Hall, CPO 2830 1 University Heights Asheville, NC 28804 swillia8@unca.edu

AOS: Philosophical Theology (esp. Trinitarian theology), Medieval Philosophy and Theology,

Philosophy/Theology of Disability

AOC: Ancient Philosophy, Ethics, Metaphysics

EMPLOYMENT

2021 - Associate Professor of Philosophy
2015-2021 Assistant Professor of Philosophy
2013-2015 Visiting Assistant Professor

Associate Professor of Philosophy
University of North Carolina, Asheville
Centre College

Visiting Assistant Professor Centre College of Philosophy

2012–2013 Visiting Assistant Professor Azusa Pacific University

of Philosophy

EDUCATION

2011 D.Phil. University of Oxford

Scholastic Theology

Thesis: "Henry of Ghent on the Trinity: Metaphysics and Philosophical

Psychology"

Supervisor: Prof. Richard Cross (University of Notre Dame; formerly University of Oxford)

Examiner: Prof. Cecilia Trifogli (All Souls College, University of Oxford)

Examiner: Prof. Russell Friedman (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)

2006 M.St. University of Oxford

Medieval Philosophy and Theology

Thesis: "Henry of Ghent: The Divine Word and Divine Ideas."

Supervisor: Dr. Richard Cross (University of Notre Dame;

formerly University of Oxford)

2003 M.A. Cum Laude Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Philosophy of Religion

Church History

Thesis: "An Overstanding of Paul Ricoeur's 'Being-As' Metaphoric by St. Thomas

Aguinas's Doctrine of Creation and Via Transcendentia.

Supervisor: Dr. Kevin Vanhoozer (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School)

Examiner: Dr. Daniel Treier (Wheaton College)

2001 B.A. Cum Laude San Francisco State University

English Literature

2001 B.A. San Francisco State University

Classics (Greek, Latin)

1996 Certificate in Film New York University

School of Continuing and Professional Studies

COURSES TAUGHT

Oxford University

1. Tutorial on Negative Theology

University of Notre Dame

- 1. Foundations of Theology
- 2. Introduction to Philosophy

Azusa Pacific University

- 1. Introduction to Philosophy
- 2. Ancient Philosophy
- 3. Medieval Philosophy
- 4. Senior Seminar on the Trinity

Centre College

- 1. Introduction to Philosophy
- 2. Philosophy Through Film
- 3. Introduction to Ethics
- 4. Philosophy of Religion

UNC Asheville

- 1. Humanities 124: Ancient Worlds
- 2. Humanities 214: Medieval and Renaissance Worlds
- 3. First-Year Seminar: Gardens, Gardening, and the Good (Society)
- 4. Introduction to Philosophy
- 5. Introduction to Logic
- 6. "How Should I Live?" Philosophy and the Good Life
- 7. Introduction to Ethical Theories
- 8. Introduction to Metaphysics and Epistemology
- 9. Medieval Philosophy
- 10. Philosophy of Religion
- 11. Islamic Philosophy
- 12. Philosophy of Disability

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

1. Independent Study (IND 9400), "Distinctions in God: Simplicity and Trinity." PhD student.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

1. *The Trinity* (Cambridge Elements). Problems of God series. Edited by Michael Peterson. Cambridge University Press. To Published in September 2024.

Edited Projects

- 2. *Disability in Medieval Christian Philosophy and Theology*. Edited by Scott M. Williams. Routledge, 2020, 295 pages.
- 3. Special Issue on "Conciliar Trinitarianism," *TheoLogica* Vol. 2, No. 2 (2020). Edited by Beau Branson, Joseph Jedwab, and Scott M. Williams. https://ojs.uclouvain.be/index.php/theologica/issue/view/1823>

Book Chapters

- 4. "John Duns Scotus," in *The Oxford Handbook of the Epistemology of Theology*. Edited by William Abraham and Fred Aquino. Oxford University Press, 2017: 421-433.
- 5. "Persons in Patristic and Medieval Christian Theology," in *Persons: A History*. Edited by Antonia Lolordo. Oxford University Press, 2019: 52-84.
- 6. "When Personhood Goes Wrong in Ethics and Philosophical Theology: Disability, Ableism, and (Modern) Personhood," in *The Lost Sheep in Philosophy of Religion: New Perspectives on Disability, Gender, Race, and Animals*. Edited by Blake Hereth and Kevin Timpe. Routledge, 2020: 264-290.
- 7. "Introduction. The Intersection: Disability in Medieval Christian Philosophy and Theology," in *Disability in Medieval Christian Philosophy and Theology*. Edited by Scott M. Williams. Routledge, 2020: 1-21.
- 8. "Personhood, Ethics, and Disability: A Comparison of Byzantine, Boethian, and Modern Concepts of Personhood," in *Disability in Medieval Christian Philosophy and Theology*. Edited by Scott M. Williams. Routledge, 2020: 80-108.
- 9. "Disability, Ableism, and Anti-Ableism in Medieval Latin Philosophy and Theology," in *The Edinburgh Critical History of Middle Ages and Renaissance Philosophy*. Edited by Andrew LaZella and Richard A. Lee, Jr.. Edinburgh University Press, 2020: 37-57.
- 10. "The Flying Man by Ibn Sina (Avicenna)," in *Philosophy Illustrated*. Edited by Helen De Cruz. Oxford University Press, 2021: 139-142.
- 11. "Why There Wasn't, and How There Can Be, a Latin Social Trinity," in *Claiming God: Essays in Honor of Marilyn McCord Adams*. Edited by Christine Helmer and Shannon Craigo-Snell. Pickwick: Eugene, OR, 2022: 153-174.

Refereed Journal Articles

- 12. "God's Knowledge of Individual Material Creatures According to Thomas Aquinas," in *Medieval Skepticism and the Claim to Metaphysical Knowledge* v. 6. Edited by Gyula Klima and Alexander Hall Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2012. First published in *Proceedings of the Society for Medieval Logic and Metaphysics* 6 (2006), 108-120.
- 13. "Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Henry of Ghent, and John Duns Scotus: On the Theology of the Father's Intellectual Generation of the Word," *Recherches de Théologie et Philosophie Médiévales* 77.1 (2010), 35-81.
- 14. "Henry of Ghent on Real Relations and the Trinity: The Case for Numerical Sameness without Identity," *Recherches de Théologie et Philosophie Médiévales* 79.1 (2012), 109-148.
- 15. "Indexicals and the Trinity: Two Non-Social Models," *The Journal of Analytic Theology* 1 (2013), 74-94.
- 16. "Unity of Action in a Latin Social Model of the Trinity," *Faith and Philosophy* 34.3 (2017), 321-346.

- 17. "Horrendous-Difference Disabilities, Resurrected Saints, and the Beatific Vision: A Theodicy," *Religions* 9, 52 (2018), 1-13.
- 18. "In Defense of a Latin Social Trinity: A Response to William Hasker," *Faith and Philosophy* 37.1 (2020), 96-117.

 This is a response to William Hasker, "Can a Latin Trinity Be Social? Response to Scott M. Williams," *Faith and Philosophy*, 35.3 (2018), 356-366. Hasker's article was a response to (15).
- 19. "Henry of Ghent," in *The Encyclopedia of the Philosophy of Religion*. Edited by Stewart Goetz and Charles Taliaferro. Wiley-Blackwell, 2021.
- 20. "Gregory of Nyssa, Conciliar Trinitarianism, and the Latin (Or Conciliar) Social Trinity:
 Response to William Hasker," *Faith and Philosophy* 38.4 (2021) 514-439.
 This is a response to William Hasker, "Is the Latin Social Trinity Defensible? A Rejoinder to Scott M. Williams," *Faith and Philosophy* 38.4 (2021) 505-513. Hasker wrote the following response to #19, "Latin' or 'Conciliar', But Still Incoherent: A Rejoinder to Scott M. Williams," *Faith and Philosophy* 38.4 (2021) 540-545.
- 21. "Discovery of the Sixth Ecumenical Council's Trinitarian Theology: Historical, Ecclesial, and Theological Implications," *Journal of Analytic Theology* 10 (2022) 332-362.
- 22. "Where Literalistic Reading Fears to Tread Logical Consistency Between Some Prepositions in the New Testament and the Divine Persons' Being Consubstantial: Response to Steven Nemes," *Philosophia Christi*, forthcoming Summer 2024.

Book Reviews

- 23. Hütter, Reinhard, Bound to Be Free: Evangelical Catholic Engagements in Ecclesiology, Ethics and Ecumenism, in Princeton Theological Review, Autumn 2005.
- 24. Flores, Juan Carlos. *Henry of Ghent: Metaphysics and the Trinity*, in *International Journal of Systematic Theology*, 10.1 (2008), 108-111.
- 25. Friedman, Russell L. *Trinitarian Thought from Aquinas to Ockham*, in *Journal of Theological Studies*, 61.2 (2010), 833-836.
- 26. Friedman, Russell L. Intellectual Traditions at the Medieval University: The Use of Philosophical Psychology in Trinitarian Theology Among the Franciscans and Dominicans, in Vivarium, 53.1 (2015), 123-125.

Other

27. "Bibliography of Henry of Ghent," 2018.

https://philosophy.unca.edu/engage/henry-of-ghent/

Funded by an NEH grant (\$4,875.00) under the supervision of Emeritus Prof. Gordon Wilson. As of Summer 2018, this is an exhaustive bibliography of works by, and about, Henry of Ghent.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- 28. Book project: *The Trinitarian Theology of Henry of Ghent*. This is a complete expansion and revision of my Ph.D. dissertation. The book has fifteen chapters; the total estimated word count is 160k words. I have completed all chapters except the Introductory chapter. I will be sending this out to publishers for them to consider publishing the book.
- 29. Book project: *Unity of Essence, But Trinity of Persons: Conciliar Trinitarianism and Analytic Theology.* Wipf & Stock, Cascade Books. In the *Analyzing Theology* series, edited by Joshua Cockayne, Christa and Jonathan Rutledge. Estimated word count is 80,000 words. To be completed by January, 2025. I was invited to submit a proposal for this in light of my contributions in the history of Trinitarian theology and analytic theology of the Trinity.

- 30. Journal Article, "Thomas Aquinas and Duns Scotus on Disability and Transition Costs Before Original Sin." This is a continuation of research on disability in medieval philosophy and theology.
- 31. Encyclopedia Article, "Personhood: Divine and Human." In *T&T Clark Encyclopedia of Christian Theology*. Edited by Christa McKirland. Submitted.
- 32. Translation of Francisco De Vitoria, *Lecture: To what is held concerning a human being who comes to the use of reason.* And an accompanying essay explaining the text in relation to the history of ableism and racism. The editors of *Critical Philosophy of Race* have expressed interest in publishing the translation and my essay. "Francisco De Vitoria on the Use of Reason in a History of Ableism and Racism."
- 33. Encyclopedia Entry, "Henry of Ghent," in *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, edited by Edward N. Zalta, URL = <<u>https://plato.stanford.edu</u>>.
- 34. Encyclopedia Entry, "Divine Personhood," in *Saint Andrews Encyclopedia of Theology*, edited by Brendan Wolfe, URL = <<u>https://www.saet.ac.uk/articles</u>>

FUTURE RESEARCH AGENDA

- -Writing a philosophical-theological history of Trinitarian theology in the ancient and medieval periods. One volume will be for a scholarly audience, and another volume for a more general audience. (I've been invited by an acquiring editor at Eerdmans Publishing to submit a proposal for a general audience in the future when I'm ready.) This history includes different motivations for Trinitarian theology and historical debates about the Trinity, in addition to logical puzzles.
- -Comparative Virtue Ethics and Divine Command Theories

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 35. 2001 "To Use or Receive, That is the Question: Thoughts on Spenser's *Faerie Queene*," *Northern California Renaissance Conference*, University California at Davis.
- 36. 2006 "Thomas Aquinas on the Divine Idea of Prime Matter," *Society for Medieval Logic and Metaphysics*, Denison University, annual conference of the *American Catholic Philosophical Association*.
- 37. 2006 "Analogy to Hope: Duns Scotus on Freedom and Chaucer on 'Trouthe'," Institute for Theology Imagination and the Arts, Spring Research Colloquium, St. Mary's College, University of St. Andrews, Directed by Trevor Hart and Jeremy Begbie.
- 38. 2008 "Thomas Aquinas and Henry of Ghent: The Father's Intellectual Generation of the Word," *Patristic, Medieval and Renaissance Conference*, Villanova University.
- 39. 2010 "Henry of Ghent on Internal Divine Production: Produced Persons," Center for Philosophy of Religion, University of Notre Dame.
- 40. 2010 "Henry of Ghent: On Being Conscious," invited graduate student papers for the workshop for the volume, *Companion to Later Medieval Cognitive Theory*, Russell Friedman and Martin Pickavé (eds.). Leiden: Brill, forthcoming. Katholieke Universiteit Leuven: Leuven, Belgium, Feb. 18-20.
- 41. 2013 "Friendship and Profound Intellectual Disability: Some Medieval Contributions," Centre College, Philosophy Program.
- 42. 2014 "Persons, Experiential Consciousness, and the Trinity: A Quasi-Social Latin Model," University of Notre Dame, Center for Philosophy of Religion.
- 43. 2014 "Disability and Locke's Concept of Person: A Critique," Centre College.
- 44. 2016 "Ableism, Medieval Concepts of Personhood, and Imago Dei Trinitatis," University of

- the South, Sewanee Medieval Colloquium; UNC Asheville, Symposium on the Philosophy of Disability
- 45. 2017 "Henry of Ghent on the Trinity; Chapter 5, 'Metaphysics of Modality: Potency, Necessity, and Possibility," Cornell University Summer Colloquium.
- 46. 2017 "Horrendous-Difference Disabilities, Resurrected Saints, and the Beatific Vision: A Theodicy," Eastern Division meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers at Asbury University.
- 47. 2018 "Personhood, Ableism, and the Philosophy of Religion: Is Personhood a Reliable Category?" 2nd Biennial Conference on the Philosophy of Disability, UNC Asheville.
- 48. 2018 "Ableism, Medieval Concepts of Personhood, and *Imago Dei Trinitatis*," at the *Disability in Medieval Latin Philosophy and Theology* conference at the University of Notre Dame.
- 49. 2019 "Henry of Ghent Against Avicenna: On Necessity, Possibility, and Internal Divine Productions," at *The American Catholic Philosophical Association* annual conference, St. Paul MN.
- 50. 2019 "Disability in Medieval Christian Philosophy and Theology," Brown Bag talk at UNC Asheville. October, 10th.
- 51. 2020 Organized a panel session for the *American Academy of Religion* annual conference, with the History of Christianity Unit; "Roundtable on Disability in Medieval Christian Philosophy and Theology, ed. Scott M. Williams (Routledge, 2020)." This took place online on December 9th, 1:45-3:15pm.
 - There were four Critics: Prof. Martin Pickave (Univ. of Toronto), Prof. Lauren Winner (Duke University), Prof. Brian Brock (Univ. of Aberdeen), and Dr. Amber Griffioen (Univ. of Konstanz).
 - There were four Contributors to the book who were Respondents: Prof. Richard Cross, Prof. Miguel Romero, Prof. John Slotemaker, and Prof. Scott M. Williams.
 - Prof. Meghan Henning (Univ. of Dayton) Presided.
- 52. 2021 "Thomas Aquinas and Duns Scotus on Disability and Transition Costs Before the Fall," at the *1st Annual Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy Conference* to be held at the University of Notre Dame in October 2021. The conference was delayed one calendar year because of COVID-19.
- 53. 2023 "On the Natural Rights of Those Without the Use of Reason: Francisco de Vitoria Against the Spanish Conquistadors," *Kentucky Philosophical Association and Indiana Philosophical Association* conference. Brescia, KY, September 31-April 1, 2023.
- 54. 2023 "Prosopological Interpretation and Indexical Speech in a Conciliar Social Model of the Trinity," *Carolina Analytic Theology* conference. Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, May 19-20, 2023.
- 55. 2024 "'Ousia', 'Physis', and 'Hypostasis' in the Sixth Ecumenical Council (Constantinople 3) and Some Miaphysite and Nestorian Alternatives: On Partialism." *Oxford Patristic Studies* conference. Oxford University, August 5-9.
- 56. 2025 "TBD." Plenary Address. Analytic Theology conference at the Angelicum (in Rome), in celebration of the 1,700th Anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. June 2-3. Prof. Michael Rea (University of Notre Dame) invited me to speak at this conference.
- 57. 2025 "TBD." LMU Munich conference on the 9th c. arabic Christian philosopher and theologian, Yahya 'ibn Adi. My paper is on Trinitarian theology prior to Yahya, in order to situate his own account of the Trinity. Prof. Peter Adamson (King's College London, LMU Munich), who runs the podcast *History of Philosophy Without Any Gaps* invited me to speak at this conference.

INTERVIEWS

- 55. 2020 Interviewed by Dr. R.T. Mullins (Univ. of Helsinki) on his podcast *The Reluctant Theologian*. We discussed my edited volume, *Disability in Medieval Christian Philosophy and Theology* and my chapter on personhood and disability: "Disability and Personhood with Scott Williams."
 - https://www.rtmullins.com/podcast/episode/2d18ca3b/episode-54-disability-and-personh ood-with-scott-williams
- 56. 2022 Interviewed on the YouTube channel, *Orthodox Shahada* (based in Oxford, UK) regarding my recent publications on Indexicals (e.g., the term "I") and the Trinity [~3.4k views so far]: "Inseparable Operations and the 6th Ecumenical Council, featuring Dr. Scott Williams"
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-eAVFn rudg
- 57. 2022 Interviewed on the podcast, *The London Lyceum*, regarding my recent publications on Indexicals (e.g., the term "I") and the Trinity: "Conciliar Trinitarianism with Scott Williams."
 - https://www.thelondonlyceum.com/podcast-episode-archive/
- 58. 2022 Interviewed on the podcast, *The London Lyceum*, Roundtable on "Trinity and Simplicity" with Professors Oliver Crips (University of St. Andrews), Timothy Pawl (University of St. Thomas), Thomas McCall (Asbury University), and Scott Williams (UNC Asheville). [~2.7k views]
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ohOHPyJTs0
- 59. 2024 Interviewed on the podcast by David Erhan (based in Turkey) about content in my forthcoming book, *Cambridge Element: The Trinity*. [~1.5k views since 01/27/24]
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f u0e5leuEM
- 60. 2024 Interviewed on the podcast, *History of Philosophy Without Any Gaps*, by Prof. Peter Adamson (LMU Munich, Kings College in London). Discussed my edited volume, *Disability in Medieval Christian Philosophy and Theology*, re: personhood, kinds of slavery, and Spanish Colonialism.
 - https://historyofphilosophy.net/

MANUSCRIPT / ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

- 2009 Examined a 14th c. codex held at Balliol College, University of Oxford, that contains John Duns Scotus's theological and philosophical treatise called "De formalitatibus," which concerns the doctrine of God. This research was required for the critical editing of this text.
- 2006 Examined a 15th c. codex held at Christ Church College, University of Oxford, that contains works by Ralph Strode who, it is thought, is Geoffrey Chaucer's philosophical friend. This research was vital for my paper presentation on Chaucer and Duns Scotus at St. Mary's College, University of St. Andrews.

GRANTS

- Spring 2016 Funding for the *1st Biennial Conference on the Philosophy of Disability*, UNCA \$1,575 from the NEH Professor, UNCA
- Spring 2018 Funding for the 2nd Biennial Conference on the Philosophy of Disability, UNCA \$1,500 from the NEH Professor, UNCA

\$1,115 from the Philosophy Club, UNCA

\$100 from the Office of Academic Accessibility, UNCA

\$100 from the UNCA Department of Art and Art History

\$600 from the Thomas Howerton Distinguished Professor of Humanities, UNCA

\$700 from the Dean of Humanities, UNCA

Spring 2018 Funding for a Workshop in support of *Disability in Medieval Christian*

Philosophy and Theology, Univ. of Notre Dame

\$5,000 from the *Nanovic Institute*, University of Notre Dame

\$2,000 from the *Disability Forum*, University of Notre Dame

\$13,000 from *Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts*, Univ. of Notre Dame

2018-2021 \$4,750.00 out of a \$275,000 grant from the NEH for the Henry of Ghent Critical

Edition, with Prof. Gordon Wilson. I collated a new exhaustive Bibliography.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/118g388FChT9HKCvX2">MF6kvAVWCWZNGh/view

Spring 2020 Funding for the 3rd Biennial Conference on the Philosophy of Disability, UNCA

\$350 from the Belk Distinguished Professor of Humanities, UNCA

\$300 from the Thomas Howerton Distinguished Professor of Humanities (Keya Maitra), UNCA

\$100 from the Office of Academic Accessibility, UNCA

Conference Fees were collected through EventBrite. This paid for food costs.

Spring 2021 \$5,000.00. Andrew W. Mellon Foundation subgrant for the "Philosophy as a Way of Life Project." This is for a complete course redesign according to the PWOL

pedagogy, along with building a stand-alone public facing website. See here for more

information.

SERVICE TO UNC ASHEVILLE

Department

- Faculty Advisor to the Philosophy Club
- Faculty Advisor to Phi Sigma Tau
- Organizer of Biennial Conference on the Philosophy of Disability
- Facilitate the Philosophy Department Facebook page
- Facilitate the Philosophy Club Facebook page

University

- Member of University Research Council (2016 2018)
- Member of Honors Advisory Committee (2017 2019)
- Member of the University Transportation Committee (2019-Present).
- Chair of the University Transportation Committee (2021-Present)
- Contributions to the Humanities Program (HUM 214, Medieval and Renaissance World) (2016-Present). In 2018-2019 I proposed a re-design of the course, working with the course Coordinator and other contributors to HUM 214. This was accepted and is still in use.
- Member of the Search Committee for Lecturer in German (Spring 2020)
- Faculty Senator (2021-Present)
- Member of the Faculty Welfare and Development Committee (2021-2023)
- University Teaching Council (2021-2023)

• Member of the Institutional Development Committee (2023-2024)

Community

- Guest Speaker for OLLI course "How to Think Like a Philosopher"
- Guest Speaker at Trinity Episcopal Church lecture series on Philosophy, Science, and Religion
- Guest Blog-post on *In Medias Phil* (a blog for faculty teaching Medieval Philosophy) regarding pedagogy and a curriculum proposal.
 - https://inmediasphil.wordpress.com/2018/11/29/a-slow-medieval-course-with-christine-de-pizan/
- Organized the Biennial Philosophy of Disability conference (three times so far); open to the public.
- See "Interviews" above.

SERVICE TO FIELD

Reviewer for *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* (Medieval Philosophy and Theology)

Reviewer for *Journal of Analytic Theology* (Trinitarian Theology)

Reviewer for Sophia (Trinitarian Theology)

Reviewer for *Faith and Philosophy* (Trinitarian Theology)

Reviewer for *Journal of the History of Philosophy* (Henry of Ghent)

Co-Organized Festschrift Conference for Professor Marilyn McCord Adams (UCLA, Yale, Oxford, UNC-CH, Princeton) with Prof. Mark Henninger (Georgetown University) and Prof. Thomas Ward (Baylor University), Georgetown University, March 13-15, 2014.

Organized the *1st Biennial Conference on the Philosophy of Disability* at UNC Asheville, April 4, 2016.

Organized the 2nd Biennial Conference on the Philosophy of Disability at UNC Asheville, April 20-21, 2018.

Co-Organized with Richard Cross the conference, *Disability in Medieval Latin Philosophy and Theology* at the University of Notre Dame, April 26-28, 2018.

Organized the *3rd Biennial Conference on the Philosophy of of Disability* at UNC Asheville, March 6-7, 2020.