Andrew Evans

Philosophy Program, Department of History
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Areas of Specialization: Philosophy of Mental Health, Bioethics and Health Humanities, Philosophy of Mind/Psychology

Areas of Competence: Socially Engaged Philosophy of Science, Ethics, Ancient Greek Philosophy

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of South Dakota
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 2026-Present

University of Notre Dame, Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values
Visiting Assistant Professor of Health, Humanities, and Society, 2023-2026

EDUCATION

University of Cincinnati
PhD Philosophy, 2017-2023
Thesis: "Treatable Conditions: Boundaries for a Mental Health Ontology"
MA Mental Health Counseling, 2018-2022

King's College London
MA Philosophy of Psychology, 2014-2016
Thesis: "What is Mental Health and Illness? A Relative Concept with Objective Components"

Duquesne University
BA Philosophy and Psychology, 2009-2013
Thesis: "Investigating Love: Nietzsche Compared to Augustine"

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLE

Evans, A. 2025. Beyond biological and social normativity: varieties of norm deviation and the justification for intervention. *Synthese* 205, 105. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-025-04945-4

BOOK

(Under Contract, In Progress). *A Guide for Academic Researchers Conducting Science Outreach*, with Melissa Jacquart, Amanda Corris, Tim Elmo Feiten, Collin Lucken, and Angela Potochnik for the Cambridge Elements Public Engagement with Science Series, Cambridge University Press.

BOOK CHAPTER

Evans, A. Potochnik, A. 2023. Theorizing Participatory Research. In *Ethical Issues in Community and Patient Stakeholder-Engaged Health Research*, ed. Emily Anderson. Cham, Switzerland: Springer. 11-26.

PUBLIC-FACING WRITING

Evans, A. 2025. August 18. Summary of "Beyond Biological and Social Normativity." *New Work in Philosophy* blog.

Evans, A. 2021, September 21. Teacher or Student: Who's in Charge of Learning? Blog of the University of Cincinnati Center for Public Engagement with Science.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

University of Notre Dame

Health, Humanities, and Society Teaching Award, 2023-2024, 2024-2025, and 2025-2026 academic years

University of Cincinnati

Taft Research Center

Taft Competitive Dissertation Fellowship, $20,000, Fall 2021-Spring 2022

Taft Graduate Summer Fellowship, $3,000, Summer 2020 • $3,000, Summer 2022

Center for Public Engagement with Science

Research Assistantship, $2,000, Summer 2021 • $1,000, Summer 2020

College of Arts and Sciences

Public Humanities Fellowship, $1,000, Fall 2019-Spring 2020

TEACHING

University of South Dakota, Philosophy Program

Instructor:

PHIL 220: Introduction to Ethics, Fall 2026 (two sections, online asynchronous)

University of Notre Dame, Health, Humanities, and Society Program

Instructor:

PHIL 20640: Philosophy of Mental Health and Disorder, Spring 2025, Fall 2025, Spring 2026

HHS 35500: Narratives of Psychological Distress and Confinement, Fall 2024

HHS 20210: From Antipsychiatry to Mad Pride: Mental Healthcare and Social Movements, Fall 2023

HHS 20556: U.S. Healthcare in Perspective, Fall 2024, Spring 2024, Spring 2026
HHS 20555: Contemporary Concerns in Medicine: Identity, Injustice, and Inequality, Fall 2025
HHS 20555: Contemporary Concerns in Medicine: Birth, Life, and Death, Spring 2024 and Fall 2023

University of Cincinnati, Department of Philosophy
Instructor:
PHIL 3037: Philosophy of Mental Health and Disorder, Spring 2023 (online asynchronous) and Spring 2021 (online synchronous)
PHIL 2041: Minds and Machines, Summer 2019
PHIL 1044: Meaning of Life, Summer 2022 (online asynchronous)
PHIL 1025: Contemporary Moral Issues, Fall 2022 (online asynchronous) and Summer 2018
PHIL 1003: Introduction to Ethics, Fall 2019
PHIL 1002: Introduction to Philosophy of Mind: Mind and Will, Summer 2020 (online asynchronous)
Teaching Assistant:
PHIL 3033: Neuromarketing, Spring 2018 (online asynchronous)
PHIL 1089: Sex and Death, Fall 2020 (online asynchronous)
PHIL 1032: How Science Works, Spring 2019 (online asynchronous)
PHIL 1025: Contemporary Moral Issues, Fall 2017
PHIL 1000: Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2018

Xavier University, Department of Philosophy
Instructor:
PHIL 100: Plato, Nietzsche, and Feminist Ethics, Fall 2020 (hybrid)

PRESENTATIONS

"The Ethics of AI Psychotherapy Chatbots" Invited speaker for the Humanities Research Forum: Humanities and AI Roundtable, University of South Dakota, October 2026.

"Must Mental Healthcare Individualize Suffering?" Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry, Online, May 2026.

"Beyond Biological and Social Normativity in Mental Healthcare" Invited speaker for the Theorizing at Rowan series, Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ, April 2026.

"Safe Spaces for Scary Conversations: Thinking Through the Teaching of Sensitive Topics," Inclusion and Belonging Committee, University of Notre Dame College of Arts and Letters, January 2026.

"Normativity, Deviation, and Mental Disorder," Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry, New York, NY, May 2024 • University of Notre Dame History and Philosophy of Science Colloquium, March 2024.

Commentary on Abigail Gosselin's "Autonomy and Mental Healthcare," American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, New Orleans, LA, February 2024.

"Community Health Workers: Addressing Social Determinants of Health One Person at a Time," with Marie Donahue, Mark Fox, and a panel of St. Joseph County Department of Health Community Health Workers, University of Notre Dame, October 2023.

"Towards a Suffering-Based Approach to Mental Healthcare's Purview," Too Mad to be True II: The Promises and Perils of the First-Person Perspective, Second Edition of the International Conference on the Philosophy of Madness and the Madness of Philosophy, Online, May 2023 • Buenos Aires Philosophical Perspectives on the Mind Sciences Workshop Series: Psychiatry, Online, May 2023 • The Social Roots of Mental Disorders, Philosophy and Psychiatry Talk Series, Online, March 2023 • Philosophy of Science Association Poster Forum, Pittsburgh, PA, November 2022.

"First-Person Experiences in Mental Health," Phillips State Prison, Gwinnett County, GA, May 2023.

"Mental Healthcare and Power," Phillips State Prison, Gwinnett County, GA, February 2023.

"Beyond Content Warnings: Weaving Mental Health into the Philosophy Classroom," American Association of Philosophy Teachers-American Philosophical Association Teaching Hub, Eastern Division Meeting, Montréal, QC, January 2023.

"Philosophy, Mental Health, and Mindfulness," Phillips State Prison, Gwinnett County, GA, September 2022.

"Treatable Conditions: Boundaries for a Mental Health Ontology," Taft Dissertation Fellows Presentation, University of Cincinnati, March 2022.

"Cultivating Community Relations for Philosophy High Impact Practices," with Amanda Corris, Melissa Jacquart, and Angela Potochnik, Philosophy of Science Association Poster Forum, Baltimore, MD, November 2021.

"Philosophy of Mind," Invited speaker for the University of Cincinnati Neurosociety, April 2021.

"Mental Suffering and Treatable Conditions," Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice, Michigan State University, July 2020, Cancelled due to COVID-19.

"Toward a Participant-Centered Model of Science Engagement," with Chris Rickels, Mid/South Philosophy of Science Conference, Virginia Tech, April 2020, Cancelled due to COVID-19.

"How Useful is the Research Domain Criteria?" Mid/South Philosophy of Science Conference, University of Kentucky, March 2019 • University of Waterloo Philosophy Graduate Association Conference, March 2018.

"Prediction Error Minimization and the Dark Room Problem," Mind and Brain Annual Conference, Center for Cognitive and Neuroethics, University of Michigan, Flint, September 2017.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Community Mental Health Center, Lawrenceburg, IN
Intern Therapist, January 2021-December 2021

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
Care Facilitator and Research Assistant for Clinical Trials Network-0064: Project HOPE HCV, 2015-2017

Mon Yough Community Services, McKeesport, PA
Mental Health Counselor at a residential mental health facility, 2013-2014

SERVICE

University of Notre Dame
Senior Capstone Advisor
"Bridging the Gap: How Community Health Workers Navigate Social Determinants of Health," Maggie Gazda, Spring 2026
Health, Humanities, and Society St. Joseph Health System Internship
Director, Spring 2024-Spring 2026
Critical Mental Health Working Group
Director, Fall 2024-Spring 2025
Center for Social Concerns Summer Fellowship
Mentor, Summer 2024

Phillips State Prison
Volunteer Workshop Leader, Fall 2022-Spring 2023

University of Cincinnati
Philosophy and Wellness Group
Founder and Coordinator, Spring 2021-Spring 2022
Philosophy Graduate Student Association
Vice President, Fall 2019-Spring 2020
Philosophy Club
Coordinator, Fall 2019-Spring 2020

Referee
Philosopher's Imprint, Summer 2025
Philosophy of Science, Summer 2025, Summer 2026
Synthese, Spring 2024
Engineering Studies, Fall 2020-Spring 2021

PEDOGOGICAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

University of South Dakota
New Faculty Advising Workshop, Fall 2026

Calvin University
Fight Ableism in the Academy Workshop, Fall 2024

University of Notre Dame
Well-Being in the Classroom Taskforce, Spring 2024
Active Minds Classroom Wellness Summit, Spring 2024

Philosophy of Science Communication
Social Media Workshop, Spring 2021

University of Cincinnati
Teach Me to Teach, UC Graduate Association for Teaching, Spring 2019
The World Starts Here: Best Practices for Teaching and Learning with International Students, Spring 2019

REFERENCES

Vania Smith-Oka
Director of the Health, Humanities, and Society Program
Professor of Anthropology
University of Notre Dame
248 Corbett Family Hall
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