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NATHANIEL EDWIN (NATE) BULTHUIS

APPOINTMENTS

ST. JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY (Philadelphia, PA)
2025-present. Associate Professor. Department of Philosophy
ST. JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY (Philadelphia, PA)
2019-2025. Assistant Professor. Department of Philosophy
COLGATE UNIVERSITY (Hamilton, New York)
2018-2019. NEH Visiting Assistant Professor of the Humanities in Philosophy.
COLGATE UNIVERSITY (Hamilton, New York)
2016-2018. Visiting Assistant Professor. Department of Philosophy.
CORNELL UNIVERSITY (Ithaca, New York)
2015-2016. Visiting Assistant Professor. Sage School of Philosophy.
CORNELL UNIVERSITY (Ithaca, New York)
2014-2015. *The Philosophical Review* Lecturer. Sage School of Philosophy.

EDUCATION

CORNELL UNIVERSITY	
Ph.D., Philosophy	2014
M.A., Philosophy	2012
YALE DIVINITY SCHOOL	
M.A.R., summa cum laude, Philosophical Theology	2008
CALVIN COLLEGE	
B.A., Religion (Honors) & Political Science (Honors)	2005

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Medieval Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Ancient Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy, Philosophy of Language, Logic

PUBLICATIONS

- Forthcoming. 'Objective Propositions and Objective Being in Walter Burley's *Super artem veterem*.' *Journal of the History of Philosophy*.
2025. 'Ontology and Ockham's Account of Truth Conditions for Tensed Propositions.' In Claude Panaccio and Jennifer Pelletier (eds.), *Ockham's Summa Logicae: A Critical Guide*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
2025. 'Truth-bearing and Objective Being: Walter Burley on the Consequence, 'Some Proposition is False, Therefore Its Contradictory is True.' In Monica Brinzei (ed.), *Radical Thinking in the Middle Ages: Proceedings of the XV International Congress of the Société Internationale pour l'Étude de la Philosophie Médiévale*. Paris, 22-26 August 2022 (Rencontres de Philosophie Médiévale, 29). Turnhout: Brepols.
2021. 'Propositions.' In Richard Cross and JT Paasch (eds.), *The Routledge Companion to Medieval Philosophy*. New York: Routledge.
2020. 'Walter Burley on Co-Signification in Opaque Contexts.' *Oxford Studies in Medieval Philosophy*, 8: 222-249.
2017. 'John Buridan on Universals.' In Fabrizio Amerini, Laurent Cesalli and Alessandro Conti (eds.), *Universals in the Fourteenth Century*. Pisa: Scuola Normale Superiore, pp. 140-72.
2016. 'The Motivations for Walter Burley's Theory of the Proposition.' *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 24 (6): 1057-1074.
2016. 'Properties in Walter Burley's Later Metaphysics.' In Christian Rode (ed.), *Responses to Ockham*. Leiden: Brill.
2012. 'A Puzzle about Divine Personhood in *De Trinitate*, VII and VIII.' *Medioevo* 37: 57-82.

BOOK REVIEWS

2017. 'Review of Margaret Cameron and Robert J. Stainton (eds.), *Linguistic Content: New Essays on the History of Philosophy of Language*.' *Philosophical Review* 126 (4): 536-541.
2013. 'Review of Hugh McCann, *Creation and the Sovereignty of God*.' *The Review of Metaphysics* 67 (1): 180-82.

PRESENTATIONS

2026. 'Entia Rationis in Walter Burley's Early Logical Commentaries.' Second Biennial SMRP Conference, St. Louis University, June.
2025. 'Walter Burley on Propositional Content.' Cornell Summer Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy, Brooklyn, June.
2024. 'Content and Cognitive Architecture: Two Late Medieval Models.' Cornell Summer Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy, Brooklyn, June.
2023. 'Ontology and Ockham's Account of Truth Conditions for Tensed Propositions.' Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Philosophy Mini-Conference, St. Louis University, June.
2023. 'Ontology and Ockham's Account of Truth Conditions for Tensed Propositions.' Cornell Summer Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy, Brooklyn, May.
2022. 'An Argument against Propositional Actualism: Walter Burley on the Consequence, 'If some proposition is false, its contradictory is true'.' The XVth

- Congress of the Societe Internationale Pour l'Etude de la Philosophie
Medievale, Paris, June.
2022. 'Correspondence and Co-Supposition: Walter Burley on Truth.' Cornell Summer Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy, Virtual, June
2021. 'Burley's Two Theories of Truth.' Society of Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy. Notre Dame, October.
2020. 'Empty Beliefs: Walter Burley on Cognition, Content, and Mental Language.' Cornell Summer Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy, Virtual, June
2019. Comments on Milo Crimi, 'The Necessity of Consequences in Ockham and Buridan.' Eastern APA, New York, January.
2018. 'Augustine to Nebridius, Letter III.' Augustine-Nebridius Workshop. CNRS, Paris, May.
2018. 'Walter Burley on Scientific Knowledge.' The Morris Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy. Boulder, CO, April.
2017. 'Tools from the Philosopher's Lab,' with Karin Nisenbaum and Reid Blackman. Arts and Humanities Colloquium. Colgate University, Hamilton, NY, September.
2017. 'Objective Propositions in Walter Burley's *Super artem veterem*.' Cornell Summer Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy. Brooklyn, June.
2015. 'Walter Burley on the Nature of Logic: Some Initial Observations.' Cornell Summer Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy. Ithaca, NY, May-June.
2015. 'Supposition and the Semantics of Mental Sentences in Walter Burley.' Wyclif and the Realist Tradition in 14th c. Logic. Arché, St. Andrews, May.
2014. 'Walter Burley on Mental Language.' Central APA, Chicago, March.
2013. 'Walter Burley on the Real Proposition.' Cornell Summer Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy. Ithaca, June.
2013. 'Rescuing Rule-following: How Dispositionalism Can Help with Rule-following Primitivism.' Pacific APA, San Francisco, March.
2013. 'A Problem of Material Supposition in the Semantics of Walter Burley.' Central APA, New Orleans, February
2012. 'Opacity, Belief and Demonstrative Science: Walter Burley on Propositional Attitudes and Attitude Reports.' Cornell Philosophy Workshop. Ithaca, NY, November.
2012. 'Cognitive-Realist Accounts of Propositional Content in the Fourteenth Century.' NYU/CUNY/Columbia Philosophy of Language Workshop. Manhattan, October.
2012. 'Walter Burley on the Language of Thought.' The University of Toronto Colloquium in Mediaeval Philosophy. Toronto, September.

TEACHING (ST. JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY)

Ethics in Health Care (S27, F25)
 The Philosophy of Aquinas (F26, S23, F22, S20)
 Moral Foundations (F26, S25, F24, S24, S22, F20, S20, F19)
 Philosophy of Augustine (S25, F24, F21, S21, F20)
 Personhood in Islamic Philosophy (S24, F23)
 FYS: Young Minds [Service-Learning] (S23)
 Moral Foundations [Service-Learning] (F22)
 Philosophy of God in Aquinas (F23, S22, F19)
 Thinking about Thinking: A Seminar on Mental Representation (F21)
 Medieval Philosophy (S20)

DISSERTATION

Walter Burley on the Metaphysics of the Proposition and Its Relation to Language and Thought

I examine Walter Burley's (died c. 1344) account of the proposition. For Burley, propositions—the primary bearers of truth value—are complex entities composed of things (such as Socrates and the universal form, wisdom) and are structured by the mind's predicating one thing of another. The mind's predicating one thing of another is, for Burley, the exercise of a capacity of the mind to conceive of things' being related to each other in a certain way: for example, to conceive of Socrates' having wisdom. Consequently, for Burley, the truth-aptness of a proposition is not primitive; rather it is explained in terms of the exercise of that mental capacity to represent. My interpretation of the account is starkly at odds with the dominant view in the scholarship. On that view, Burley's account entails that propositions are constituted not by things but merely by one's conceptual states; things rather constitute facts, to which true propositions correspond. But that view struggles to explain Burley's repeated claim that the mind can predicate one thing (*res*) of another, and so produce propositions composed of them. My own interpretation, in contrast, provides a motivated explanation of this and other, similar claims. Interpreting Burley's project in the way that I suggest also gives us a clearer understanding of Burley's unique place in the sophisticated debates about language, mind, and reality distinctive of the first half of the 14th century.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2025. Referee. Springer Nature.

2024. Founder's Award Judge, Society of Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy.

2020-2021. Referee. British Journal for the History of Philosophy.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

June 2024-Present. Director. Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

Fall 2020-Present. Member. Philosophy and Undeclared Humanities Advising.
Department of Philosophy.

Fall 2019-Present. Member. Part-Time Teaching Evaluation Committee. Department of Philosophy.

Fall 2019-Present. Member. Curriculum Committee. Department of Philosophy.

Fall 2019-Present. Member. Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

Fall 2021-Spring 2026. Member. Faculty Elections Committee.

Fall 2020-Spring 2023. Member. Academic Integrity Council.

Fall 2020. Member. Faculty Senate Executive Council.

Fall 2020. Member. First Year Seminar Certifying Committee.