

Daniel Lightsey
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Curriculum Vitae

1 EDUCATION

University: Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Degrees Awarded:

B.A. Philosophy, *Summa Cum Laude* with Undergraduate Research Honors

B.S. Physics, *Summa Cum Laude*

Overall GPA: 4.00 / 4.00

Year Graduated: 2022

2 RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Course Work:

2019-2022

PHIL 111 *Contemporary Moral Issues* (with PhD candidate Kristian Cantens): focus on relevant moral issues such as free speech, abortion, policing, and animal cruelty.

PHIL 240 *Introduction to Logic* (with Dr. Christopher Menzel): focus on introductory classical logic such as categorical logic, truth tables, proofs, first-order classical logic, and probability.

PHIL 251 *Introduction to Philosophy* (with Dr. Stephen Daniel): an overview of the perennial questions in philosophy such as personal identity, how we know what we know, what is knowledge, free will, the existence of God, the mind-body problem, etc.

PHIL 255 *C.S. Lewis: Faith & Philosophy* (with Dr. Robert Garcia): focus on topics in the philosophy of religion and the intersection of faith and reason, particularly from C.S. Lewis's perspective.

PHIL 305 *Philosophy of Natural Science* (with Dr. Roger Sansom): focus on topics such as what counts as science, how theory change happens, and what constitutes scientific explanation.

PHIL 320 *Philosophy of Mind* (with Dr. Nathan Howard): focus on topics such as theories of consciousness, personal identity, mental states and causation, and free will.

PHIL 342 *Symbolic Logic II* (with Dr. Christopher Menzel): focus on topics such as modal logic, first-order quantified modal logic, metalogic, philosophy of logic, and a brief introduction to set theory.

PHIL 410 *Classical Philosophy* (with Dr. Kristi Sweet): focus on classical philosophers and their ideas such as Heraclitus, Parmenides, Plato, and Aristotle.

PHIL 484 *Professional Internship for Aletheia* (with Dr. Dwayne Raymond): completed the requisite responsibilities for my respectively held positions for *Aletheia* (see below). Moreover, I was required to expand my understanding and knowledge of metaphysics, free will, philosophy of mind and epistemology in order to supervise the journal which required lots of independent study.

PHIL 491 *Undergraduate Research* (with Dr. Roger Sansom): focus on research topics in free will and its intersection with luck. This research eventually lead to my undergraduate honors thesis.

PHIL 661 *History of Philosophy Seminar* (graduate level class with Dr. Kristi Sweet): focus on different philosophers throughout the ages, such as: Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Rousseau, Locke, and Hegel. Particular focus was given on their views about what constitutes a political community.

**Editor For Texas A&M University's Undergraduate Journal *Aletheia*:
Fall 2020**

Reviewed up to 50 papers and edited 6 papers that were submitted to the journal for grammar, coherency, and rigor.

**Executive-Editor For Texas A&M University's Undergraduate Journal *Aletheia*:
Spring 2021**

Oversaw the work of various editors for the Spring 2021 regular edition of the journal for *Aletheia* and held similar responsibilities as the Editor position.

**Editor-in-Chief For Texas A&M University's Undergraduate Journal *Aletheia*:
Fall 2021 - Spring 2022**

Oversaw the whole program of *Aletheia* to ensure that the accepted papers were edited properly and were rigorous with enough clarity, and held held similar responsibilities as the Editor position. Published three editions during the fall 2021 - spring 2022 school year: two regular editions for each of the two semesters and the *IV-CUP* (International Virtual Conference of Undergraduate Philosophy) edition in the spring.

3 EMPLOYMENT

Tutor, Academic Success Center, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
January 2019 - May 2019

- Helped students master various topics from a plethora of classes including math, logic, physics, and computer science classes.
- Worked with others to improve the tutored students learning.

Supplemental Instruction Leader, Academic Success Center, Texas A&M University,
College Station, TX
May 2019 - May 2022

- Made lesson plans for 3 sessions a week to help students who were struggling in physics classes with the highest fail rate.
- Interacted with students and guided them through rigorous and intense problem solving methods and questions.
- Performed many of the responsibilities that a teaching assistant normally would.

Transformational Physicist, Northrop Grumman, Lithicum, MD
June 2022 - Present

- Problem solved issues related to circuit design and data simulations with cutting-edge technology with Qubits and superconductors.

- Collaborated with others to find solutions to the task I was working on or on the task they were working on.
- Presented ideas to the leadership above me and gave talks about my current progress with the task I was working on.

4 AWARDS AND ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Academic Excellence Award - 2022

Awarded annually to a graduating student in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Texas A&M who has the highest GPA and has the best academic record.

Undergraduate Essay Prize - 2022

Awarded annually to the student in the Department of Philosophy & Humanities at Texas A&M who has written the best essay in a philosophy course by a philosophy undergraduate student.

Manuel Davenport Service Award - 2022

Awarded annually to one Junior or Senior Philosophy major in the Department of Philosophy & Humanities at Texas A&M in recognition of their contributions to philosophy and the intellectual life of the Philosophy department.

Undergraduate Honors Research Thesis - 2021-2022

A year long honors thesis that I wrote in my fifth year at Texas A&M (Fall 2021 - Spring 2022). The thesis was titled “Compatibilism’s Problem with Luck” and explored the possible problems that compatibilists face with furnishing free will and moral responsibility to determined agents because of luck if they accept an analogous problem of luck for libertarian theories of free will.

Phillip and Doris Moses Ranch Fund Scholarship - 2020-2022

Awarded to select students in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Texas A&M University for their achievements in their academic work.

Crawford and Hattie Jackson Foundation Scholarship - 2020-2022

Awarded to select students in the College of Science at Texas A&M University for their achievements in their academic work.

Undergraduate Journal Publication:

***IV-CUP* (International Virtual Conference of Philosophy) - 2021**

The *IV-CUP* was held between Texas A&M University and Saint Francis Xavier University in the spring of 2021. I contributed as a commentator on Ken Matheson’s paper “The Elimination of Metaphysics,” where Matheson examines A.J. Ayer’s view of metaphysics. I comment on the possibility of corroborating metaphysical theories via empirical evidence.

Undergraduate Journal Publication: *Ephemeris* - 2021

A paper published in *Ephemeris*’s 2021 edition titled “A Defense for the Compatibility of Science and Religion. This paper argues that the claim that science has epistemic superiority over and above philosophy and religion (or any field—sometimes called *scientism*) shoots itself in the proverbial foot, and that the claims of science and religion (specifically monotheistic religions) do not necessarily beget conflict because they make distinctive but complimenting claims about reality.