

Daniel Speak

Professor of Philosophy · Loyola Marymount University

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EMPLOYMENT

Fall 2026–present	University Core Curriculum Director , Loyola Marymount University
2017–present	Professor , Dept. of Philosophy, Loyola Marymount University
2011–2017	Associate Professor , Dept. of Philosophy, Loyola Marymount University
2011–2015	Department Chair , Dept. of Philosophy, Loyola Marymount University
2007–2011	Assistant Professor , Dept. of Philosophy, Loyola Marymount University
2002–2007	Assistant Professor , Dept. of Philosophy, Azusa Pacific University

AREAS

Specialization	Metaphysics, Free Will and Philosophy of Action, Philosophy of Religion
Competence	Ethics, Epistemology

ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2013–2014	Senior Fellow , Center for Philosophy of Religion, Rutgers University
Spring 2013	Research Fellow , Center for Christian Thought, Biola University
2005–2006	Post-doctoral Fellow , Center for Philosophy of Religion, University of Notre Dame

EDUCATION

1996–2002	Ph.D., Philosophy , University of California, Riverside Dissertation: <i>Moral Responsibility and the Relevance of Alternative Possibilities</i> Committee: John Martin Fischer (Co-chair), Gary Watson (Co-chair), Paul Hoffman, Andrews Reath, Gideon Yaffe [external]
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GRANTS

2025–2028	LMU Intellectual Character Initiative . Grant award of \$943,668 from the Educating Character Initiative of Wake Forest University (via the Lilly Foundation) to support a three-year project to embed a focus on educating for intellectual virtues into the pedagogical culture of Loyola Marymount University.
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PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

2016	<i>Free Will and Theism</i> , edited with Kevin Timpe. Oxford University Press.
2014	<i>The Problem of Evil</i> . Polity Press, <i>Key Concepts in Philosophy</i> Series. (Arabic translation, 2016)

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

22	“Faith, Free Will Skepticism, and Fischer’s Tao,” 2025. <i>Midwest Studies</i> 48: 385–405.
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- 21 "Can God Be Forgiven," 2023. *Routledge Handbook of the Psychology and Philosophy of Forgiveness*. Routledge University Press.
- 20 "Skeptical Theism," 2023. *T&T Clark Handbook to Suffering and the Problem of Evil*. Bloomsbury Press.
- 19 "Religion and Moral Responsibility," 2022. *Oxford Handbook of Moral Responsibility*. Oxford University Press.
- 18 "Theodicy," 2021. *The Encyclopedia of the Philosophy of Religion*. Wiley-Blackwell.
- 17 "Hope and the Hiddenness of God," 2017. *The Philosophers' Magazine*, Issue 78: 3rd Quarter.
- 16 "Free Will and the Problem of Evil," 2017. *The Routledge Companion to Free Will*, eds. Griffith, Levi, and Timpe. Routledge Press.
- 15 "The Import of Impossibility," 2016. *Body and Soul: Recent Debate*, eds. Crisp, Porter, and Ten Elshoff. Eerdmans Press. (Response to Richard Swinburne's "The Impossibility of Proving that Human Behaviour is Determined." Swinburne replies in the same volume.)
- 14 "Domination and the Free Will Defense: A Reply to Pruss," 2015. *Faith and Philosophy* 32 (3): 313–324.
- 13 "Free Will and Soul-Making Theodicies," 2013. *The Blackwell Companion to the Problem of Evil*, ed. Howard-Snyder and McBrayer. Blackwell.
- 12 "On the Possibility of Making Even More Sense of Freedom and Responsibility." *Philosophical Studies*, December 2012.
- 11 "Libertarianism, Luck, and Gift." *Res Philosophica* 88(1/2): 29–49, 2012.
- 10 "The Consequence Argument Revisited," 2011. *The Oxford Handbook of Free Will*, ed. Robert Kane. Oxford University Press.
- 9 "Leading the Way." *The Journal of Ethics* 12: 123–128, May 2008. (Guest editorial introduction to a special volume dedicated to the work of John Fischer.)
- 8 "The Impertinence of Frankfurt-style Argument." *The Philosophical Quarterly* 57(226): 76–95, Jan 2007.
- 7 "Salvation Without Belief." *Religious Studies*, vol. 43, issue 02, 229–236, 2007.
- 6 "Toward an Axiological Defense of Libertarianism." *Philosophical Topics*, vol. 32, nos. 1&2, 353–369, 2004.
- 5 "Semi-Compatibilism and Stalemate." *Philosophical Explorations* 8: 95–102, 2005.
- 4 "PAPistry: Another Defense." *Midwest Studies in Philosophy* Vol. 29: Free Will and Moral Responsibility. Oxford: Blackwell, 2005.
- 3 "Fanning the Flickers of Freedom." *American Philosophical Quarterly* 39: 91–105, 2002.
- 2 "Death and the Psychological Conception of Personal Identity." With John Fischer. *Midwest Studies in Philosophy: Death and Ethics* Vol. XXIV: 84–93, 2000.
- 1 "Fischer and Avoidability: A Reply to Widerker and Katzoff." *Faith and Philosophy* 16: 239–247, 1999.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- 2027 **"Intellectual Virtue and Intellectual Vocation"**
Oxford University, Jubilee Centre, January 2027
- 2025 **"Virtues, Values, Vocation"**
UC Irvine, "Anteater Virtues Conference," September 2025
- 2024 **"The Value of Christian Maturity"**
Westmont College, "A Crisis Among Us," May 2024

- 2024 **"Christian Hope and Rational Desire"**
Pepperdine University, Keynote Address, Society of Christian Philosophers, May 2024
- 2021 **"Faith in Freedom"**
Union College, invited colloquium, May 2021 [via zoom]
- 2021 **"Faith in Freedom"**
Society of Christian Philosophers Western Regional Meeting, March 2021 [via zoom]
- 2019 **"Hope and the Hiddenness of God"**
Hope International University, October 2019
- 2018 **"Faith in Free Will"**
Southern California Agency and Responsibility Workshop, UCSD, October 2018
- 2017 **"Hiddenness, Hope, and Relationship"**
The Nature and Norms of Hope Conference, Cornell University, April 2017
- 2015 **"Domination and the Free Will Defense"**
Society of Christian Philosophers Western Regional Meeting, March 2015
- 2014 **"The (So-Called) Problem of Divine Hiddenness"**
Marist University, March 2014
- 2012 **"On An Advantage of Open Theism"**
American Catholic Philosophical Association, SCP session, LMU, November 2012
- 2009 **"On An Advantage of Open Theism"**
Society of Christian Philosophers Western Division Meetings, Ft. Lewis College, Durango, CO, November 2009
- 2009 **"Would Causal Determinism Cost Us Our Reasons"**
Symposium Session, Pacific Division of the APA, Vancouver, BC, April 2009
- 2008 **"Open Theism and the Problem of Evil"**
California State University at Bakersfield, November 2008
- 2008 **"Libertarianism, Luck, and Gift"**
Society of Christian Philosophers Western Division Meetings, UC Riverside, October 2008
- 2007 **"Satan's Good Works" (with Manuel Vargas)**
Society of Christian Philosophers Western Regional Meeting, February 2007
- 2007 **"Staking a Claim to Libertarianism"**
UC Riverside Alumni Conference, February 2007
- 2006 **"Staking a Claim to Libertarianism"**
Plenary Address, "New Perspectives on Free Will and Moral Responsibility" Conference, University of San Francisco, November 2006
- 2006 **"The Impertinence of Frankfurt-style Argument"**
Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference, March 2006
- 2006 **"Toward an Axiological Defense of Libertarianism"**
Biola University, March 2006; Kenyon College, October 2005
- 2004 **"Responsibility and the Failure of the Counterexample Strategy"**
Pacific Division of the APA, Pasadena, CA, March 2004; Baylor University, February 2003
- 2003 **"Belief, Hope, and Salvation" (with Rico Vitz)**
Southern California Philosophy Conference, UC Riverside, October 2003
- 2001 **"Buffers and Begging the Question"**
Eastern Division of the APA, Atlanta, December 2001

- 2000 **“Flip-flopping and the Flavor of Responsibility”**
Eastern Division of the APA, New York, December 2000
- 2000 **“Fanning the Flickers of Freedom”**
Pacific Division of the APA, Albuquerque, NM, March 2000; Southern California Philosophy Conference, UC Irvine, October 1999

CONFERENCE COMMENTS

- 2023 Author-Meets-Critics comments on Kelly McCormick’s *The Problem of Blame*
Pacific APA, San Francisco, CA, April 2023
- 2023 Author-Meets-Critics comments on Laura Ekstrom’s *God, Suffering, and the Value of Free Will*
Central APA, Denver, CO, February 2023
- 2013 Comments on Richard Swinburne’s “The Impossibility of Proving that Human Behaviour is Determined”
CCT Conference, Biola University, May 2013
- 2012 Comments on Keith DeRose’s “How Can We Know that We Are Not Brains In Vats”
Talbot School of Theology Conference, March 2012
- 2012 Comments on Dana Nelkin’s *Making Sense of Freedom and Responsibility*
Author Meets Critics, Pacific Division of the APA, Seattle, WA, April 2012
- 2011 Comments on Dana Nelkin’s “Forgiveness and Freedom”
Bowdoin Free Will Seminar, Bowdoin, Maine, October 2011
- 2011 Comments on Scott O’Leary’s “Emotion, Evaluation, and Identification”
Pacific Division of the APA, San Diego, CA, April 2011
- 2010 Comments on Neal Judisch’s “Divine Conservation and Human Agency”
Logos II Conference, Rutgers, NJ, May 2010
- 2010 Comments on Michael Pace’s “Faith and Intellectual Virtue”
Pacific Division of the APA, San Francisco, CA, March 2010
- 2008 Comments on Michael McKenna’s “Conversation and Responsibility”
Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, August 2008
- 2008 Comments on David Palmer’s “Pereboom on the Frankfurt Cases”
Pacific Division of the APA, Pasadena, CA, March 2008
- 2006 Comments on Carolina Sartorio’s “Omissions: An Exclusion Problem for Causalism”
Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference, March 2006
- 2005 Comments on Michael Bratman’s “Three Theories of Self-governance”
Conference in honor of Gary Watson, UC Riverside, February 2005
- 2004 Comments on John Fischer’s “Frankfurt Examples: The Moral of the Stories”
Wheaton Philosophy Conference, October 2004

REVIEWS

- 2025 Review of *Four Views on Free Will, Second Edition* (Kane, Fischer, Pereboom, Vargas). Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews, April 2025.
- 2019 Review of *Faith and Humility* (by Jonathan Kvanvig). Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews, March 2019.
- 2019 Review of *Free Will and Classical Theism: The Significance of Freedom for Perfect Being Theology* (ed. Hugh McCann). The Journal of Analytic Theology, 2019.

- 2011 Review of *Freedom, Teleology, and Evil* (by Stewart Goetz). Faith and Philosophy, July 2011.
- 2011 Review of *Metaphysics and God: Essays in Honor of Eleonore Stump* (ed. Kevin Timpe). Analysis, June 2011.
- 2011 Review of *Fate, Time, and Language: An Essay On Free Will* (by David Foster Wallace). Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews, April 2011.
- 2008 Review of *Four Views on Free Will* (by Fischer, Kane, Pereboom and Vargas). Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews, May 2008.
- 2007 Review of *Libertarian Accounts of Free Will* (by Randolph Clarke). Philosophia Christi, January 2007.

MEDIA & MISCELLANY

- 2024 *The Free Will Show* podcast conversation on the connection between the problem of evil and the free will debate (episode 81), August 2024. thefreewillshow.com
- 2022 *Digital Gnosis* YouTube conversation, two-part interview on the problem of evil, April 2022. youtu.be/1wQ3yRnqYHM
- 2022 *Capturing Christianity* YouTube conversation on the problem of animal suffering, February 2022. youtu.be/EEexALvv5GE
- 2021 *The Analytic Christian* podcast, four-part interview on the problem of evil, December 2021. youtu.be/rHFz32kkEGA
- 2019 Summer Conference Keynote, “Free Will, Agency, and Responsibility in Latin America,” July 2019 (Templeton-funded initiative to bring Latin American philosophers into the contemporary debate).
- 2012 Invited MC for “50 Years of Freedom and Resentment” conference at The College of William and Mary, September 2012.
- 2009 Guest on “Philosophy Talk” radio show, hosted by John Perry and Ken Taylor, May 10, 2009. Topic: Worship. philosophytalk.org

SERVICE

UNIVERSITY

Honors Advisory Council (HAC)	Fall 2021–present
Acting Honors Program Director	Spring 2018
Honors Program Advisor	2015–2020
Bellarmino College of Liberal Arts 4-Unit Task Force	2014–2015
Member, Faculty Senate	2009–2012
Advisor, undeclared majors	2009–present

COLLEGE

External Department Chair, Classics and Archaeology	2024–2025
BCLA Dean Search Committee, Co-Chair	2023
BCLA Graduate Committee member	2022–present
BCLA Graduate Committee, Chair	AY 2021–22
BCLA Grade Appeal Committee	Spring 2019
At-Large Sabbatical Replacement, BCLA College Council	Spring 2018
BCLA undeclared major advisor	

DEPARTMENT

Graduate Program Director	2022–2026
Acting Graduate Program Director	2021–2022
Standard M.A. oral defense reviewing	
Search Committee member (Phil of Law)	2017–18
Faculty Mentor, Department Bellarmine Fellows	2016–2020
Department Chair	2011–2015
Faculty Advisor for the Undergraduate Philosophical Society	Fall 2010
Assessment committee	2008–present
Library Liaison	2007–2008

PROFESSION

External Program Reviewer, Biola University Dept. of Philosophy	Fall 2026
External Program Reviewer, Westmont College Dept. of Philosophy	Fall 2017, Fall 2023
External Program Reviewer, Chapman University Dept. of Philosophy	Fall 2015
American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, Program Committee	2014–2017
Society of Christian Philosophers: Executive Committee Member (elected 2017); Regional Steering Committee, 2006–09; Pacific APA Session Planning Committee, 2007–present	

REFEREEING

The Journal of Philosophy, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Synthese, Journal of Ethics (Guest Editor, special issue), *Metaphilosophy, Philosophical Explorations, Philosophical Quarterly, Dialectica, Philosophical Studies*, Broadview Press, *Mind*, Oxford University Press, *Faith and Philosophy, Journal of the American Philosophical Association, American Political Science Review, Religious Studies, American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*.