

Daniel Christoph Kranzelbinder

Curriculum Vitae

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Contact

Princeton University
1879 Hall, Dept. of Philosophy
Princeton, NJ 08544

Citizenship: Switzerland/Austria

AOS: Ancient Philosophy
AOC: Metaphysics, History of Early Modern Philosophy, Kant

Employment

Dec. 2020 Postgraduate Research Associate, *Princeton University*

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Education

Sept. 2015 PhD in Philosophy, *Princeton University*

— Advisors: Morison, B. & Lorenz, H.

Dec. 2020 Dissertation: *Aristotle on Principle Justification*

Sept. 2018 MA in Philosophy, *Princeton University*

Advisor: Lorenz, H.

Examination Topic: *Aristotle's Scientific Epistemology*

Sept. 2013 BPhil in Philosophy, *University of Oxford (Brasenose College)*

— Advisors: Peramatzis, M., Charles, D., Shields, C., Judson, L.

June 2015 Thesis: *Aristotle on the Status of Change and its Definition*

Examination Subjects: Metaphysics, Ethics, Aesthetics, Kant, Ancient Philosophy

Sept. 2009 BA in *Literae Humaniores*, *University of Oxford (St. John's College)*

— *1st Class Honors (Double First)*

July 2013 Concentration on Philosophy

Selected Academic Honors & Fellowships

Jun.2020 Dean's Completion Fellowship

Dec. 2020 *Competitive Fellowship covering all University fees and expenses as well as providing a living stipend*

Jun. 2019, Stanley J. Seeger Fellowship, *Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies*

Jun. 2018, *Competitive Fellowship supporting research in Greece*

Jul. 2017

Sept. 2015 – P.E. More Fellowship, *Princeton University*

Jun- 2020 *Competitive Fellowship covering all University fees and expenses as well as providing a 12-month living stipend.*

- Sept. 2013 – Jowett Scholarship, *Faculty of Philosophy, University of Oxford*
 Jul. 2015 *Competitive Fellowship covering all University fees and expenses as well as providing a 12-month living stipend.*
- Mar. 2011– Casberd Scholarship, *St. John's College, University of Oxford*
 Jun. 2013 *Annually Renewable Scholarship for candidates who displayed excellence in examinations.*

Selected Presentations

(PR) = Peer Reviewed: (I) = Invited

- Nov. 2020 *Colorado College. 'Philia, Contemplation, and the Good Life.'* Department of Philosophy. (I)
 Jul. 2019 *University of the Aegean (Greece). 'De Caelo Ch.1&Ch2.'* Workshop in Syros, Greece. (I)
 Jun. 2019 *Humboldt Universität zu Berlin. 'How to Get Going (With Aristotle).'* 9th Princeton-Humboldt Graduate Conference in Philosophy. (PR)
 May 2019 *University of Chicago. 'The Argument of Physics IV.10-14.'* Graduate Conference (PR)
 Jun. 2018 *Naxos (Greece). 'Episteme, Nous, and Phronesis.' Nicomachean Ethics VI* Workshop in Naxos, Greece. (I)
 Jan. 2018 *University of São Paulo (Brazil). 'Comments on 1069a30-b32.'* Princeton-São Paulo Ancient Philosophy Consortium. (I)
 Jun. 2017 *University of the Aegean (Greece). 'The Puzzles About Time in Physics IV.10.'* Workshop on Aristotle's *Physics* in Syros, Greece. (I)
 Nov. 2016 *Brown University. 'Aristotle's Analogy of the Good.'* Mark L. Shapiro Graduate Conference. (PR)
 Oct.2016 *Virginia Tech. 'Aristotle on Analogy.'* Graduate Conference. (PR)
 Jan. 2016 *University of Utah. 'Aristotle's Analogy of the Good.'* Intermountain West Student Philosophy Conference. (PR)
 Jan. 2016 *University of São Paulo (Brazil). 'Comments on Eudemian Ethics II.6.'* Princeton-São Paulo Ancient Philosophy Consortium. (I)

Teaching

University of Pennsylvania

- Spring 2019 PHIL-003-601: Introduction to Ancient Philosophy (co-taught with G. Shapiro).
 1.5h of class twice per week combining lecture and discussion section.

Garden State Youth Correctional Facility (Prison Teaching Initiative)

- Spring 2019 PHI-101: Introduction to Philosophy (co-taught with T. Davies).
 2.5 h of class time per week combining, lecture, office hours, and tutorials.

Assistant Instructor at Princeton

- Fall 2017 Assistant Instructor and Head Preceptor for Professor Gideon Rosen
 PHI203: Introduction to Epistemology & Metaphysics.
 2 discussion sections per week, course coordination

Spring 2017 Assistant Instructor for Professor Benjamin Morison
PHI301: Aristotle and his Successors.
2 discussion sections per week

Fall 2016 Assistant Instructor for Dr. Simon Shogry
PHI205: Introduction to Ancient Philosophy.
2 discussion sections per week

Guest Lectures at Princeton

Mar. 2017 'Free Will.' For Prof. Rosen's *Introduction to Metaphysics and Epistemology*.

Oct. 2016 'Aristotle on Change.' For Dr. Shogry's *Introduction to Ancient Philosophy*.

Professional Service

Reviewer for *Eirene: Studia Graeca et Latina* (2021-present), Department of Philosophy Highschool Outreach (2018-present, founding committee), Classical Philosophy Graduate Student Representative (2015-2016, 2018-2019), COMPASS Workshop (2015-2018, reviewer), Princeton *Paper Tigers* Speaker Series (2017-2018, chair), Princeton Workshop in Social Philosophy (2015-2017, reviewer), Ancient Philosophy in Early Modern Europe Conference (2017, reviewer), Oxford Philosophy Graduate Conference (chair, 2015).

Research Languages

German (native), French (fluent written and spoken), Ancient Greek (professional reading), Latin (professional reading), Italian (basic reading), Hebrew (basic reading).

References

Benjamin Morison (Primary Advisor)

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Professor of Philosophy. Director of
the Program in Classical Philosophy

Hendrik Lorenz

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Professor of Philosophy

Mark Johnston

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Henry Putnam University
Professor of Philosophy

Dissertation Summary

Aristotelian sciences threaten to cause a great scientific scandal. A finished Aristotelian science is a deductive system of all the truths in a domain structured into theorems and the explanatory first principles (axioms, in modern parlance) that they can be explanatorily derived from. But why think *these propositions* (and not others) are the basic explainers? Until we get such justification, the entire science is on shaky footing. Frege called this the great scientific ‘scandal’. I argue that Aristotle theorized and in his own scientific writings practiced a strategy to overcome it. I call his strategy the downstream-justification of principles as *principles*. The basic idea is this: when we already accept a proposition Q which belongs to a science, and another proposition P gives an explanation for Q but does not itself have an explanation, P is a good candidate for a first principle.

Downstream-justification has not received recognition from scholars. The most salient way in which this lack of recognition has been detrimental to our understanding of Aristotle is that it has prevented us from seeing how he structures his own writings. I show that downstream-justification of principles is the key to making sense of the organization of two of the most important but also most difficult Aristotelian treatises: the *Physics* and the *Posterior Analytics*. They are the conceptual entryway into much of Aristotle’s philosophy and yet are commonly thought to be some of his most chaotic, frustrating, and unsatisfying texts. I show that these treatises are in fact organized in a compelling way around a philosophically interesting project: building up sciences from scratch. I accordingly defend three main claims:

- (1): Aristotle Theorized A Strategy Called Downstream-Justification of Principles as Principles With Which to Overcome the Great Scientific Scandal. (ch.1)
- (2): The Framework Of Science-Building, And Especially Downstream-Justification Of Principles As Principles Holds The Key To The Structure Of Important Sections of Aristotle’s Foundational Work Of Natural Science, The *Physics*. (chs.2&3)
- (3): Epistemology Itself Is A Science. The *Posterior Analytics*, Aristotle’s Treatise On Epistemology, Records The Efforts Of A Budding Scientist To Identify And Justify Principles Of Epistemology. (ch.4)