

David Cunning

Department of Philosophy, The University of Iowa
250 English-Philosophy Building, Iowa City, IA 52242-1408

Phone: (319) 335-0027 Fax: (319) 353-2322
e-mail: david-cunning@uiowa.edu

Educational and Professional History

Education

September 1994-June 2000	University of California, Irvine Ph.D. in Philosophy, June 2000 M.A. in Philosophy, December 1997
August 1989-December 1993	University of California, Berkeley B.A. in Philosophy, December 1993

Positions

July 2007 – present	Associate Professor of Philosophy, The University of Iowa
July 2003 – June 2007	Assistant Professor of Philosophy, The University of Iowa
September 2004 – December 2004	Visiting Scholar, University of California, Los Angeles
August 2000 – May 2003	Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Northern Illinois University
January 1998 – May 1998	Visiting Lecturer, Pitzer College

Honors and Awards

RESEARCH

Summer 2010	U. Iowa CLAS Faculty Fellowship Award (\$6000)
Fall 2009	U. Iowa Professional Development Award (taken ½-time for 2009-10 year)
September 2007	Grant for undergraduate R.A. for Spinoza project (\$2500), UI Honors Program
December 2005	Travel grant (\$500), UI Office of VP for Research & International Programs
October 2005	Travel grant (\$1400), UI College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
August 2005	Research fund (\$3000), UI College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Summer 2005	Support for Graduate Research Assistant (\$3000), UI Philosophy Department
September 2004 – May 2005	Fellowship, National Endowment for the Humanities (\$40K)
Fall 2004	Research Fellowship (\$2000/month for three months), UCLA Clark Library/ Center for Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Studies
July 2004	Stipend for NEH summer institute (\$2800), “The Intersection of Philosophy, Science and Theology in the Seventeenth Century”
April 2004	Travel grant (\$500), UI Office of the VP for Research
March 2004	Travel grant (\$400), UI College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Summer 2003	Research grant, NIU College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (\$4000, plus \$1500 for a research assistant)
Summer 2001	Research grant, NIU College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (\$4000)
Spring (Quarter) 2000	Grant (\$2000) from UC Irvine Humanities Center and UCI Philosophy for 2000 California Conference on Early Modern Philosophy
Fall 1999	Grant (\$1000) from UCI Humanities Center, Associate Dean of Humanities & Philosophy Dept. for John Cottingham visit (early modern workshop)
Fall 1999	Grant (\$4200) from UCI Humanities Center, UCI Associate Dean of Humanities, UCI Program in History and Philosophy of Science, & UCI Philosophy for workshop visits by Howard Stein and Janet Broughton
Winter 1999	UCI Humanities Travel Grant (\$500) for 1999 Intermountain Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy
Winter 1999	Grant (\$600) from UCI Humanities Center) for early modern workshop
Winter 1999	UCI Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities (\$4800)

TEACHING

May 2004	nTITLE mini-grant (\$1500) for University of Iowa teaching workshop
February 2002	Recognition for Excellence in Teaching, Mortarboard Honors Society (from the chapter at Northern Illinois University)
May 2001	Stipend (\$2000) for 3-day teaching workshop at Northern Illinois University, “Accommodative Teaching = Student Success”
June 1999	Outstanding Teaching Assistant Fellowship Award fellowship (one quarter) granted yearly to two UCI graduate students
June 1999	“Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching” Award in Humanities granted annually to one graduate student in UCI School of Humanities
June 1999	Outstanding Philosophy TA Award granted annually to one philosophy graduate student
June 1999	“Excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring and TA Development” granted by UCI Undergraduate Education, UCI Instructional Resources
May 1998	Stipend (\$500) for Mellon 3-day teaching workshop at Harvey Mudd College “Managing Lecture-Free Learning”

Professional Memberships

1995 – present	American Philosophical Association
1997 – present	Leibniz Society of America
2003 – present	Iowa Philosophical Society
2003 – present	Illinois Philosophical Association

Scholarship

Publications -- refereed

Books

Argument and Persuasion in Descartes' Meditations, Oxford University Press (June 2010), 248 pp.

Editor, *The Cambridge Companion to Descartes' Meditations*, Cambridge University Press (January 2014), 336 pp.

Cavendish, in the series *The Arguments of the Philosophers*, Routledge Publishing (under contract)

Everyday Examples: An Introduction to the History of Philosophy, Bloomsbury Publishing (forthcoming)

Articles

“Margaret Lucas Cavendish”

The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, ed. Edward Zalta (2009), 43 pp.
substantial revision, and increase to 55 pages (2012)

“Malebranche and Occasional Causes”

Philosophy Compass 3 (2008), 1-20

“Fifth Meditation TINs Revisited: A Reply to Criticisms of the Epistemic Interpretation”

British Journal for the History of Philosophy 16:1 (2008), 215-227

“*Semel in Vita*: Descartes' Stoic View on the Place of Philosophy in Human Life”

Faith and Philosophy 24:2 (2007), 164-183

“Descartes on the Dubitability of the Existence of Self”

Philosophy and Phenomenological Research 74:1 (2007), 113-133

“Cavendish on the Intelligibility of the Prospect of Thinking Matter”

History of Philosophy Quarterly 23:2 (2006), 117-136

editor and translator, "Principii Cartesia" by Robert Percy Smith
The Philological Museum (2004), ed. Dana Sutton, <http://www.philological.bham.ac.uk/rpsmith>

"Systematic Divergences in Malebranche and Cudworth"
Journal of the History of Philosophy 41:3 (2003), 343-363

"True and Immutable Natures and Epistemic Progress in Descartes' *Meditations*"
British Journal for the History of Philosophy 11:2 (2003), 235-248

"Descartes on the Immutability of the Divine Will"
Religious Studies 39:1 (2003), 79-92

"Descartes' Modal Metaphysics"
The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, ed. Edward Zalta (2002), 37 pp.

"Agency and Consciousness"
Synthese 120:2 (1999), 271-294

"Modality and Cognition in Descartes" (co-authored with Alan Nelson)
Acta Philosophica Fennica 64 (1999), 137-153

Publications – invited

"Descartes and the Force of Skepticism"
forthcoming in *A Companion to Skepticism*, ed. Baron Reed and Diego Machuca, Bloomsbury Publishing

"Introduction"
The Cambridge Companion to Descartes' Meditations, Cambridge UP (2014)

"The First Meditation: Divine Omnipotence, Necessary Truths, and the Possibility of Radical Deception"
The Cambridge Companion to Descartes' Meditations, Cambridge UP (2014)

"Method of Analysis" and "True and Immutable Natures"
The Cambridge Descartes Lexicon, ed. L. Nolan, Cambridge University Press (2012)

Review of *Matter Matters* (Oxford UP) by Kurt Smith
British Journal for the History of Philosophy 19 (2011), 997-1001.

"Descartes' God and the Products of His Will"
Models of God and Other Ultimate Realities, ed. J. Diller and A. Kasher, Springer Publishing (2011)

"Mind-Body Problems"
The Routledge Companion to Seventeenth-Century Philosophy, ed. D. Kaufman, Routledge (2011), 50 pp.

Review (co-authored) of *Fallen Nature, Fallen Selves: Early Modern French Thought II* (Oxford UP) by Michael Moriarty
Journal of the History of Philosophy 46:4 (2008), 644-5

"Nicholas Malebranche"
The Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers, ed. T. Hockey, Kluwer Academic Publishers (2007), 731-2

"Descartes on Sensations and Ideas of Sensations"
An Anthology of Philosophical Studies, ed. P. Hanna, A. McEvoy & P. Voutsina, Athens: Atiner Publishing (2006), 17-32

"Rationalism and Education"
A Companion to Rationalism, ed. Alan Nelson, Blackwell Publishing (2005), 61-81

Review of *Panpsychism in the West* (MIT Press) by David Skrbina
Notre Dame Book Reviews (2005)

Lectures and Conference Presentations (refereed, international)

“Descartes on the Genealogy of Ideas of Sensation”

2006 International Conference on Philosophy, Athens Institute for Teaching and Research
June 2006 – Athens, Greece

“Descartes’ Anti-Intellectualism”

Ninth Annual Conference of the International Society for the Study of European Ideas
August 2004, at the University of Navarra (Pamplona, Spain)

Lectures and Conference Presentations (refereed, national)

“Spinoza, Descartes, and the Problem of Language for Philosophy”

Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Chicago, IL; April 2005

“An Early Modern Conception of Body, and a Problem for Property Dualism”

Twenty-Ninth European Studies Conference, University of Nebraska, Omaha; October 2004

“A Variety of Minds in the Third and Fifth Meditations”

Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Pasadena, CA; March 2004

“Epistemic Position and the Second Meditation”

Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association; San Francisco, CA; March 2001

“The Analytic of Body in Descartes’ *Meditations*”

Intermountain Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, University of Colorado, Denver, April 1999

“Descartes on the real distinction between mind and body”

Southern California Philosophy Conference, UC Irvine, October 1997

Lectures and Conference Presentations (invited)

“Cavendish, Hume, and Spinoza”

Invited Symposium at the Eastern Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, December 2013

“Cavendish as Mysterian”

Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, Iowa Philosophical Society, November 2013

“Margaret Cavendish on the Wonders of Matter”

Colloquium at Grinnell College, November 2011

“Spinoza on the Infinity of Mind-Body Union”

Colloquium at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, March 2011

“Spinoza’s Beef with Non-Actual Reality”

Colloquium at the University of Iowa, May 2010

“The Historical Influence of the Historical Descartes”

Guest lecture at the University of Iowa – 160:325 *Rhetorics of the Body*, January 2010

“Descartes on the Necessity of Every Last Truth”

Colloquium at University of Nebraska, Omaha, March 2009

Comments on "Two New Cartesian Circles" by Glenn Hartz (Ohio State) and Patrick Lewtas (U. Michigan)

Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Chicago, IL; April 2008

Comments on “The Genesis of Emilie du Chatelet’s Cosmological Argument”

Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Pasadena, CA; March 2008

Comments on “Against a Psychologistic Reading of Descartes,” Matthew Kisner (University of South Carolina)
Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, San Francisco, CA; March 2005

Comments on “Cartesian Generosity and Freedom of the Will,” Joel Schickel (Duke University)
Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2004

“Descartes and the Equilibrium of the Will”
presented for comments to the Cartesian Circle (a group of Early Modern scholars in Southern California)
UC Irvine, February 2004

Comments on “Descartes on Composite Natures,” Justin Skirry (Purdue University)
Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2003

“The Analytic Method and the Second Meditation”
Colloquium at University of Iowa, February 2003

“Descartes’ Analytic Method”
presented for comments to the Cartesian Circle, University of California, Irvine, June 2002

“Galileo’s Defense”
Mortarboard Honors Society: Last Lecture Series, Northern Illinois University, February 2002

Comments on “Descartes on Material Falsity: A non-issue?,” David Clemenson (Rice University)
Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, May 2002

“Epistemic Position and the First Meditation”
Colloquium at University of Western Ontario, October 2001

Comments on “Descartes’ Dilemma: Pantheism, or Something from Nothing,” Geoffrey Gorham (St. Olaf College),
Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, May 2001

“Epistemic Progress in Descartes’ *Meditations*”
Colloquium at Lewis and Clark College, February 2001

“Resolving Cartesian Confusions”
Colloquium at University of Utah, March 2000; colloquium at Northern Illinois University, February 2000

Comments on “A Cartesian Argument Against Innate Ideas,” Patricia Easton (Claremont Graduate University)
Sixth Annual California Early Modern Conference, CSU Long Beach, June 1999

“Theism and the New Science”
Twelfth Annual Humanities Associates Awards Reception, University of California, Irvine, June 1999

Comments on “The Heart of Cartesian Dualism,” Paul Hoffman (UC Riverside)
Fifth Annual California Early Modern Conference, UC Berkeley, September 1998

“Hume and Searle – where we start from, where we don’t get”
Lucian Marquis Lecture Series, Pitzer College, March 1998

“Anti-Possibilism in Descartes”
Third Annual California Conference on Early Modern Philosophy, UC Irvine, June 1997

“G.E. Moore vs. Stroud on skepticism”
colloquium, Pitzer College, May 1997

Works In Progress

“The Implicit Reasoning in the Proof of Ip5” (under review)

“Necessary Existence and the Proof of Ip11” (under review)

“A Note on Hume on Abstract Ideas”

“Hume as Mysterian”

Teaching at the University of Iowa Advising

Prefatory Note: I strongly encourage my graduate students to submit their papers for conference presentation. Three recently had papers accepted: Jessica Engelking at the 2006 Mid-South Philosophy Conference, Peter Legrant at the 2005 Mid-South Philosophy Conference, and Brett Gaul at the 2004 meeting of the American Catholic Philosophical Association. Gaul’s paper was published in the conference proceedings. Note that I work with my students at every stage of this process – writing, submission, practicing Q&A, publication, etc.

Advisee	Year Completed	
Kris Phillips	In progress	Director
Hannibal Jackson	In progress	Director
Samuel Taylor	In progress	Committee Member
Abe Graber	In progress	Committee Member
Ian MacMillan	F 2012	Committee Member
Brett Coppenger	SU 2012	Committee Member
Seth Jones	SP 2012	Director
Matthew Drabek	F 2011	Committee Member
Benjamin Hassman	SU 2011	Committee Member
Travis Dickinson	SU 2011	Committee Member
Heather Libby	F 2010	Committee Member
Wendy Scholz	SP 2010	Committee Member
John Depoe	SP 2010	Committee Member
Anthony Bryson	F 2009	Committee Member
Peter Legrant	SP 2009	Director
Kenneth Hobson	F 2007	Committee Member
Brett Gaul	F 2007	Committee Member
Jessica Gosnell	SP 2006	Committee Member
Eli Trautwein	SU 2006	Committee Member
Jennifer Wilson	SP 2006	Committee Member
Peter Bezanson	F 2005	Co-Director
Annie-Marie Peil	SU 2005	Committee Member
Michael Mulnix	SP 2005	Committee Member

Comprehensive Exam Committees – 2003-4 (5), 2004-5 (2), 2005-6 (3), 2006-7 (5), 2007-8 (4), 2008-9 (8), 2009-10 (5), 2010-11 (5), 2011-12 (4), 2012-13 (3)

Directed Readings – SP 2004 (Wendy Scholz); FALL 2005 (Peter Legrant); SP 2006 (Daniel Schulz); SP 2009 (Kris Phillips and Brett Coppenger); SU 2010 (Samuel Taylor); SP 2011 (Brady Hoback and Ian O’Loughlin)

I have also served on two undergraduate thesis committees (2004, 2006).

Unless otherwise indicated the responses below are my median scores on the standard U. Iowa ACE form. In all cases the scores range from a highest possible of 6 (“strongly agree”) to a lowest possible of 1 (“strongly disagree”).

Semester and Year	Course	Students Enrolled	Course is intellectually stimulating	Instructor interested in teaching	Help is available outside of class	Atmosphere conducive to exchange of ideas	Course well-planned & organized	Would recommend to other students
Fall 2013	The Meaning of Life 26:33	296	5.60	5.89	5.88	5.72	5.61	5.66
	Existentialist Philosophy 26:141	28	5.98	5.96	5.98	5.96	5.54	5.93
Spring 2013	The Meaning of Life 26:33	257	5.26	5.78	5.75	5.58	5.55	5.55
	17 th -Century Philosophy 26:114	20	5.85	5.96	6.00	5.85	5.69	5.57
	Existentialist Philosophy 26:141	31	5.79	5.98	5.93	5.87	5.64	5.83
Fall 2012	Spinoza & Leibniz 26:160	12	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.94	5.67	6.0
Spring 2012	The Meaning of Life 26:33	304	5.55	5.86	5.87	5.73	5.56	5.64
	Descartes 26:158	15	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.75	5.96
Fall 2011	Existentialist Philosophy 26:141	30	5.83	6.00	5.95	5.87	5.40	5.83
	18 th -Century Philosophy 26:116	32	5.93	5.97	6.00	5.93	5.85	5.92
	1st-year seminar Free Will and the Brain 26:29:003	14						
Spring 2011	17 th -Century Philosophy 26:114	30	5.81	5.93	5.88	5.88	5.45	5.72
	Introduction to Philosophy 26:061H	17	5.93	6.00	6.00	5.97	5.83	5.77
Fall 2010	Existentialist Philosophy 026:141	30	5.89	5.92	5.95	5.92	5.71	5.81
	Hume 026:198	14	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.63	5.96
Spring 2010	Existentialist Philosophy 026:141	28	5.88	5.94	5.94	5.91	5.59	5.77
Fall 2009	Spinoza 026:229	10	6.0	6	5.78	6.0	5.89	6.0
Spring 2009	Introduction to Philosophy 026:061	19	5.93	6.00	5.88	5.83	5.28	5.61
	Medieval Philosophy 026:112	28	5.67	5.94	5.88	5.83	5.13	5.79
Fall 2008	Descartes 026:158	10	5.79	5.94	6.0	5.67	5.40	5.88

Summer 2008	Introduction to Philosophy 026:061	7	5.9	5.9	5.5	5.9	5.5	5.75
	Existentialist Philosophy 026:143	13	5.88	5.94	5.94	5.94	5.88	5.88
Spring 2008	Modern Philosophy 026:115	33	5.62	5.95	5.81	5.82	5.38	5.77
	Early Modern Ethics 026:198	17	5.86	5.96	5.96	5.96	5.63	5.85
Fall 2007	Introduction to Philosophy 026:061H	19	5.77	5.97	6.0	5.94	5.21	5.77
	Berkeley and Hume 026:163	22	5.83	5.97	5.93	5.93	5.50	5.97
Spring 2007	17 th -Century Philosophy 026:114	34	5.86	5.98	6.0	5.98	5.82	5.86
	American Pragmatism 026:149	15	5.69	5.78	5.91	5.85	5.2	5.85
Fall 2006	Introduction to Philosophy 026:061H	19	5.5	5.94	5.94	5.81	5.3	5.38
	Descartes 026:229	8	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.8
Spring 2006	18 th -Century Philosophy 026:116	32	5.91	6.0	5.98	5.96	5.63	5.91
	Spinoza 026:149	9	5.93	5.93	6.0	6.0	5.93	5.93
Fall 2005	17 th -Century Philosophy 026:114	26	5.5	5.88	5.92	5.88	5.75	5.82
	Hume 026:229	9	5.56	5.89	5.89	5.78	5.33	5.67
2004-5	On leave NEH fellowship							
Spring 2004	History of Mind-Body Problem 026:147	28	5.67	5.96	6.0	5.88	5.82	5.82
	Spinoza/Leibniz 026:160	5	5.4	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.0	5.4
Fall 2003	Modern Philosophy 026:115	35	5.83	5.95	5.98	5.75	5.75	5.90
	Topics in Philosophy: Descartes 026:198	10	5.70	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.50	5.70

Service

Departmental

Director of Graduate Studies, Spring 2008 – Summer 2013
Member, Skype search committee and final job search committee, Fall 2012
Co-author, External Review, Fall 2011
Search Committee Chair, 2008-9
Graduate Studies Committee, August 2003 – Summer 2007
Faculty Assembly representative, January 2005 – 2009

University

Faculty Senate Officer (Secretary), May 2013 – present
Faculty Policy and Compensation Committee, May 2013 – present
Faculty Staff Budget Committee, May 2013 – present
Governmental Relations Committee, May 2013 – present
Committee on Committees, May 2011 – present
Elections Committee, May 2011 – present
Faculty Senate, May 2011 – present
Member of Committee on Committees (Faculty Senate), August 2012 – present
Member of Council on Teaching, August 2011 – present
Panelist, Graduate Student Networking – sponsored by the UI Graduate College, October 2013
Panelist, Job Market Workshop – sponsored by UI Graduate College, September 2010
Parking and Transportation Committee, member and secretary, August 2008 – May 2011
Classroom Advisory Committee, January 2007 – May 2010
Review Committee – NEH summer-fellowship proposals, September 2009
Review Committee – Ballard/Seashore Awards, April 2009
Referee for Jakobsen Graduate Student Conference (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013)
Outreach for the University of Iowa, Maybeck High School, Berkeley, CA – May 2006

Professional

Secretary and Treasurer, Iowa Philosophical Society, 2009 – present
Program Committee, American Philosophical Association (Central Division), 2010
Co-organizer, 2009 Iowa Philosophical Society Conference, November 2009
Tenure-evaluator, summer 2009
Chair, Early Modern Session, 2007 Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association
Chair, Early Modern Session, 2006 Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association
Evaluator, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, January 2005
Session Organizer, Early Modern Philosophy, 2004 Southern California Philosophy Conference
Referee for Central States Philosophical Association (2001, 2003, 2004)
Referee for book manuscripts: Oxford University Press, Continuum Publishing, McGraw Hill, Springer
Referee for journal articles: *Philosophy Compass*, *Noûs*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *Dialogue: The Canadian Philosophical Review*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Religious Studies*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *Polish Journal of Philosophy*, *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, *Erkenntnis*, *Journal for General Philosophy of Science*, *Philosophy & Rhetoric*, *HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science*