

# **Robert McQueen**

*Curriculum vitae*

*July 2023*

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## **EDUCATION**

***Boston College, Ph.D. Philosophy, 2023-present***

***Boston College, M.A. Philosophy, 2021–2023***

*Final Paper Advisor: Jean-Luc Solère*

*Academic Advisor: Giovanni Pietro Basile SJ*

*NOTE: Between 2012–2020, See PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE below*

***Massachusetts Institute of Technology, B.S. Computer Science***

*Specialization: Distributed Systems*

*Academic Advisor: Nickolai Zeldovich*

## **AREA OF RESEARCH**

*primary*

*Contemporary Analytic Metaphysics (esp. grounding, fundamentality, causation)*

*Early Modern Philosophy (esp. Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Kant)*

*secondary*

*Medieval Philosophy, German Idealism, Neoplatonism, Phenomenology*

*Digital Humanities (See DIGITAL HUMANITIES below)*

## **CONFERENCE TALKS**

*June 2023*

***Digital Visualization of Spinoza's Ethics***

*Society for Textual Scholarship Conference 2023: Design*

*New York City, NY, USA*

*May 2022*

***The Hannah Arendt Index: Full Text Search on LOC Archive***

*Society for Textual Scholarship Conference 2022: Cultural Mappings*

*Chicago, IL USA*

April 2022

***Eriugena's Theophany and Unconditionality***

*Villanova Graduate Conference: God and the Unconditional*

*Villanova, PA USA*

March 2022

***Pico Della Mirandola and the Human Person: Uniqueness and Solidarity***

*Boston College Graduate Conference: God and the Human Person*

*Boston, MA USA*

February 2022

***Christian Mysticism: Is it Nonsense?***

*Northeast Philosophy of Religion Colloquium (NEPRC) @ Fordham University*

*New York, NY USA*

**GRADUATE COURSEWORK**

*Ancient*

*Aristotle and Plotinus: On the Soul* Gary Gurtler SJ (Fall 2023)

*Aristotle's Metaphysics*, William Wians (Spring 2023)

*Medieval*

*Time, Consciousness, and Being* Jean-Luc Solère (Fall 2023)

*Medieval Theories of Mind and Cognition*, Jean-Luc Solère (Fall 2022, audited)

*Medieval Ontology*, Jean-Luc Solère (Fall 2021)

*Medieval Christian Mystical Philosophy: Eriugena Eckhart, Cusanus, Dermot Moran* (Fall 2021)

*Early Modern*

*Early Modern Metaphysics*, Jean-Luc Solère (Spring 2022)

*Thomas Hobbes' Leviathan*, Susan Shell (Spring 2022, audited)

*Rationalism and Empiricism in Modern Philosophy*, Jean-Luc Solère (Spring 2023, expected)

*Modern*

*Truth and Pragmatism*, Richard Atkins (Fall 2023)

*Kant's Critique of the Traditional Metaphysics in his Post-Critical Writings*, Giovanni Pietro Basile SJ (Spring 2022)

*Hegel*, John Sallis (Fall 2022)

*Soren Kierkegaard*, Vanessa Rumble (Fall 2022)

*Heidegger I*, John Sallis (Fall 2021)

*Heidegger II*, John Sallis (Spring 2022)

## *Logic*

*Symbolic Logic: Theory and Practices, Richard Atkins (Spring 2023, expected)*

### **Coursework prior to Boston College**

*Stanford Continuing Studies Program*

*The Philosophy of Art, Frederick Dolan (Fall, 2018, Spring 2021)*

*Overcoming the Tradition: Marx, Nietzsche, Heidegger, and Arendt, Frederick Dolan (Summer 2020)*

*Contemporary Political Philosophy, Frederick Dolan (Spring 2020)*

*An Introduction to Political Philosophy, Frederick Dolan (Fall 2019)*

*The Meaning of Life: Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, and More, Frederick Dolan (Spring 2019)*

*Brooklyn Institute for Social Research*

*Philosophy of Fashion, Rebecca Ariel Porte (Apr 2020)*

*Hannah Arendt: The Human Condition, Samantha Hill (May 2020)*

*Understanding Loneliness: Literature, Philosophy Theory, Samantha Hill (Aug 2020)*

*Pornography: Aesthetics, Politics, and Pleasure, Samantha Hill (Oct 2020)*

*Kant's Practical Philosophy, Michael Stevenson (Feb 2021)*

### **PAPERS**

See <https://robertmcqueen.com> to view papers I have written as part of my coursework.

### **LANGUAGES**

*German (intermediate reading)*

*Goethe Institut A-Level German Examination*

*Ancient Greek (elementary reading)*

*Boston College Summer Course 2022: Intensive Elementary Ancient Greek*

### **TEACHING**

*January 2020*

*MIT Externship Program*

*Software Engineering Internship at Segment*

*At Segment, I personally hosted and tutored two undergraduate interns from MIT during January 2020. I worked with them on a daily basis, teaching them programming patterns, software design, and testing strategies. At the end of the month, they presented a working demo of their project to the engineering organization.*

Summer 2011

MIT Educational Studies Program - Summer HSSP

*Introduction to Python Programming and Artificial Intelligence*

*I taught a summer course with a dozen high school students, teaching the basics of programming in python and implementing a simple neural network algorithm. We applied the algorithm to cookie recipes to find the “ultimate cookie recipe.”*

## **DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

Spring 2022, Fall 2022

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, for Professor Giovanni Pietro Basile SJ

*I helped compile two indexes for his newest book publications:*

*System and Freedom in Kant and Fichte (9780367480585)*

*Perspectives on Kant’s Opus postumum (9780367545666)*

September 2021–present

TREASURER, The Master’s Council @ Boston College Philosophy Department

*I was the treasurer, managing a \$2,000 budget, and an active member of the MA Council, a five-person student group, at Boston College, organizing dozens of events throughout the year for MA Students and acting as an intermediary between faculty and students. Of the bigger events we organized include:*

- MA Symposium, the first-ever BC full-day conference exclusively for MA Student Talks*
- The Philosophy Forum, a talk series for PhD students to present their ongoing research*
- Coffee Talks, a semester-long program for professors and MA Students to meet over coffee*

## **DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS**

Fall 2022

CONTRIBUTOR, *Mapping Spinoza’s Ethics* ([ethica.bc.edu](http://ethica.bc.edu)),

*collab. Jean-Luc Solère at Boston College*

*A digital version of Spinoza’s Ethics, including visualizations and easy access to references between propositions, definitions, and axioms*

Summer 2022

CREATOR, *Walt Whitman Index* (<http://waltwhitman.herokuapp.com/>),

*collab. Matt Cohen at University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

*Search engine with over 100,000 textual documents indexed from Walt Whitman’s private collection from the Library of Congress. Built in collaboration with the Walt Whitman Archive ([waltwhitmanarchive.org](http://waltwhitmanarchive.org)) and Matt Cohen.*

Summer 2021

CREATOR, **Hannah Arendt Index** (<http://arendtindex.com>) ,  
*collab. Barbara Bair at the Library of Congress*  
*Search Engine with over 70,000 textual documents indexed from Hannah Arendt's*  
*Private Collection at the Library of Congress. Built in collaboration with the*  
*Library of Congress*

## **READING GROUPS**

*Boston College Ancient Greek Translation and Reading Group: Epicurus (Fall 2022)*  
*Deleuze's Difference and Repetition (Fall 2021)*

*Hannah Arendt Center at Bard College Weekly Virtual Reading Group w/ Roger Berkowitz*  
*Arendt's The Life of the Mind (Fall 2021)*  
*Arendt's The Human Condition (Spring 2021)*  
*Arendt's The Promise of Politics (Winter 2021)*  
*Arendt's Essays in Understanding (Fall 2020)*  
*Arendt's Men in Dark Times (Spring 2020)*  
*Arendt's On Violence (Winter 2020)*

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2017–2020

IC SOFTWARE ENGINEER, [Segment](#) (acquired by Twilio in 2020 for \$3.2B)  
*Acted on the Special Projects team to build fast and reliable internal solutions for*  
*the engineering department, including deployment, infrastructure management,*  
*software library management, security automation, and more.*

Jan 2017–Aug 2017

COFOUNDER and CTO, [Kado](#)  
*Built an intelligent music discovery engine for DJs. Sold approx. 1000 monthly*  
*subscriptions.*

Oct 2015–Dec 2016

PROFESSIONAL DJ & MUSIC PRODUCER, self-employed  
*Composed, arranged, produced, and mastered my own music, also hired to play*  
*several DJ gigs at local parties and bars.*

Jan 2015–Sep 2015

SOFTWARE RELIABILITY ENGINEER, [Nylas](#) (prev. Inbox)  
*Redesigned and Reimplemented network, infrastructure, deployment, and testing*  
*systems*

*Nov 2013–Dec 2014*

*SOFTWARE RELIABILITY ENGINEER, [Twitter](#)*

*Worked on technical migration and security compliance of MoPub's systems to Twitter's shared infrastructure*

*Jan 2012–Dec 2014*

*SOFTWARE RELIABILITY ENGINEER, MoPub (acquired by Twitter in 2013 for \$350M)*

*Responsible for Production Uptime, including system monitoring, 24/7 oncall duty, infrastructure automation, deployments, network, logging, and more.*

*Feb 2011–Aug 2011*

*SOFTWARE PROGRAMMER INTERN, [Insightsquared](#)*

*Jan 2010–Oct 2010*

*SOFTWARE PROGRAMMER INTERN, [Hubspot](#)*

*Summer 2009*

*UROF Research Assistant, David Karger*

*Winter 2008*

*UROF Research Assistant, Ramesh Raskar*

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

*2021–current*

*MEMBER, Society of Textual Research*

*2019–current*

*MEMBER, Hannah Arendt Center at Bard College*

*Summer 2021*

*PARTICIPANT, Begin in Boston Summer Program, [SPARK Boston Council](#)*

*six-week summer series for residents between the ages of 20–35 who are interested in civic engagement and community involvement in the city of Boston.*

## **ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONS**

*2008–2012*

*NEWS EDITOR, MIT The Tech Newspaper*

*I worked as a news writer (2008) and editor (2009-2012) for the school newspaper. We published biweekly during the academic year; I [wrote over fifty](#)*

[articles](#) and edited several dozen issues, working with news writers to help design and polish articles.