

**Contact:**

Department of Philosophy,  
Swarthmore College, 500 College Avenue Swarthmore P19081-1397  
craffl@swarthmore.edu

**Degrees:**

Ph.D. Brown University, Philosophy, Dissertation: *Knowledge and Memory*  
M.A. Brown University, Philosophy, Thesis: *Certainty*  
B.A. University of Rochester, Honors in Philosophy and History

**Professional Employment:**

Professor, Swarthmore College,  
Visiting Professor Connecticut College,  
Visiting Professor, Bryn Mawr College,  
Visiting Research Fellow, St. John's, College, Oxford University,  
Associate Professor, Swarthmore College,  
Supervisor, King's College, Cambridge University,  
Assistant Professor, Swarthmore College,  
Instructor, Swarthmore College,  
Instructor, University of Iowa,  
Teaching Assistant, Brown University

**Areas of Specialization:**

Early Modern Philosophy, Descartes  
20<sup>th</sup> Century Analytic Philosophy, G. E. Moore  
History of Epistemology, Socrates

**Areas of Competence**

Metaphysics  
Philosophy of Mind  
Theory of Knowledge

**Awards:**

National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer; Fellow of the Council of  
Philosophical Studies; Mellon Grant for Curricular Development; Brown  
University Graduate Fellowships; National Defense Education Act Fellowship;  
The Johns Hopkins University.

**Professional Activities**

Referee for Tenure Review (various); Referee for Professional Journals:  
*Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Dialogue*, *British Journal for the  
History of Philosophy*; Professional Committees: American Philosophical

Association Committee on Unionization, Professional Societies: American Philosophical Association Eastern Division, Russell Society, Aristotelian Society, Invited Session Chairman Chisholm Memorial Conference, Brown University.

**College Committees and Positions:**

Research Ethics Committee (Chair), Committee on Faculty Procedures (*ex officio*), Faculty Secretary, Masters of Arts Committee (Chair), Honorary Degrees Committee, Fellowships from Other Institutions, Faculty Research Committee, Schedule of Classes, Library Committee, Faculty and Staff Benefits, Student Summer Stipends (Chair), Distinction in Course, Faculty Research Ethics (Chair), Computers Committee, Foreign Study Committee, Acting Department Chairman, Department Chairman, IRB, Prizes, Athletics, SJC.

**Courses taught:**

Metaphysics (intermediate course, honors seminar), Descartes and Kant (honors seminar), Theory of Knowledge (intermediate course, honors seminar, graduate), Modern Philosophy (and honors seminars), Introduction to Philosophy (and First Year Seminars: Questions of Inquiry, Life, Mind, and Consciousness), Philosophy of Mind, Problems of the Self (intermediate course), Spinoza (honors seminar), Descartes and Spinoza (honors seminar), Contemporary Philosophy (and honors seminar), Husserl (honors theses), Directed Reading (various topics), Wittgenstein (honors thesis), Philosophy of History, Senior Conference, Spinoza (honors thesis), Senior Thesis (various topics), Ethics, Ancient Philosophy, Descartes in Contemporary Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind, Descartes and Contemporary Philosophy.

**Papers (not current):**

“Introspection and Incorrigeability,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research Quarterly*.  
“Moore’s Early Realism,” Fullerton Club.  
“Organic Wholes and Non-Natural Properties,” Franklin and Marshall College.  
“Essence and Necessity in Descartes,” Graduate Seminar on Philosophy of Mind, Cambridge University.  
“On A contemporary Defense of Dualism,” American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting.  
“The Metaphysics of *Principia Ethica*, Part 2” mimeographed for, and presented to the Graduate Philosophy Society, Cambridge University.  
“Descartes’ Real Distinction,” Moral Science Club, Cambridge University.  
“Moore on Idealism or Realism,” Philosophy Department, University of Massachusetts.  
“Moore and the Priorities of Seeing,” *Journal of Philosophy*. Contribution to a Symposium on the philosophy of G.E. Moore, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division.  
“Moore on the Priority of Seeing,” *Review of Metaphysics*.

“Descartes on Objectivity and Human Value,” Symposium (with M.D. Wilson commentator), Society for the History of Ethics, Eastern Division, American Philosophical Association.

“Moore and Wittgenstein on Moore’s Paradox,” Symposium (with Robert Hambourger), Eastern Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, December.

“Hume’s Epistemic Naturalism,” prepared for Philosophy Department colloquium.

“Moore’s Arguments and Skepticism,” (review article of the G.E. Moore volume by Thomas Baldwin in the series *The Arguments of the Philosophers*) published in *Dialogue* XXXI (1992).

“Descartes on Mind and Body,” to the Philosophy Department, Connecticut College, December 1993.

“Moore’s Proof and the Subject-Matter of Epistemology” presented to the Epistemology Group, Philosophy Department, University of Pennsylvania, (05 April 1995).

“Socratic Epistemology and Politics in the *Meno*” presented to the Conference on Ancient and Modern Political Theories, Olympia Greece (16 August 1996).

“Meno’s Misological Dilemma: The Socratic Solution and its Rivals” (revised September, 1998).

“Augustine contra Academic and Cartesian Skepticism” (draft October 1998)

“Descartes and the Philosophy of Mind” presented to Cognitive Science Conference (23 November 1998).

“Descartes’s Approach to First Philosophy,” Faculty Lecture (April 2001).

**Current papers presented:**

“Some Proofs of an External World” to the Philosophy Department, University of Southern California

“Are you a thing that thinks?” Williams College (postponed).

**Referee to Philosophy journals:**

*British Journal for the History of Philosophy, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Dialogue.*

**Current monograph project:**

*A Socratic Tradition in Western Philosophy* [working title only]

The Socratic rival to widely acknowledge Platonic or Idealist and Aristotelian or Empiricist traditions in Ancient, 17<sup>th</sup> Century, and Contemporary Philosophy

**Published and Current papers:**

“The Point of Moore’s Proof” *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR THE STUDY OF SKEPTICISM* vol. 11 number 1 (2021): 1-27,  
DOI:10.1163/22105700-20191355

“Socratic Epistemology and Athenian Democracy” forthcoming

“Descartes’s Promised First Meditation” forthcoming

“*Sum Res Cogitans*” forthcoming

“Descartes’s Linear Argument for Epistemic Principles and

Cartesian Circles Dispelled” forthcoming.

“Descartes’s Proof of an External World”

“Knowledge in Descartes’s Second Meditation”

“Cartesian Theism in Descartes’s Third Meditation”