

**Marina Berzins McCoy**  
**Professor of Philosophy**  
*Curriculum vitae*

Philosophy, Boston College  
(617) 552-3858, [marina.mccoy@bc.edu](mailto:marina.mccoy@bc.edu)  
140 Commonwealth Avenue, Stokes North, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167

**Areas of Specialization:** Ancient Philosophy, especially Plato; Rhetoric and Sophists;  
Philosophy of Ancient Greek Literature

**Areas of Competence:** Mass Incarceration; History of Philosophy; Environmental  
Ethics

**Languages** Ancient Greek, French (reading)

**Appointments** Professor of Philosophy, Philosophy Department, Boston College,  
fall 2020-present.

Associate Professor of Philosophy, Philosophy Department, Boston  
College, fall 2009-spring 2020.

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Philosophy Department, Boston  
College, fall 2003-spring 2009

Adjunct Assistant Professor (full-time), Philosophy Department,  
Boston College, fall 1998-spring 2003.

NEH Fellow/ Lecturer, Core Curriculum, College of Arts and  
Sciences, Boston University, fall 1996- spring 1998.

Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, Summer Term, College of Arts  
and Sciences, Boston University, Summers 1992, 1993, 1995, 1998.

Educational Consultant and Teaching Fellow, Boston University  
Academy, Boston, MA. Designed and taught new philosophy  
curriculum for high school students, 1995-96.

**Education** Ph.D, January 1997; M.A., January 1994, Department of Philosophy,  
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Boston University.

**Doctoral Thesis:** “Reason, Virtue, and Moral Education: A Study of  
Plato’s *Protagoras*.” *Director:* Charles L. Griswold. *Readers:* C.  
Allen Speight, David Roochnik.

B.A., June 1990, with College Honors, Major in Psychology, Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana.

**Awards**

First place, Association of Catholic Publishers book awards, General category, for *An Ignatian Guide to Forgiveness*, 2021.

Bronze Medalist, Illumination Book awards, Education category, for *An Ignatian Guide to Forgiveness*, 2021.

Goldsmith Mentor of the Year, Benjamin Mays Mentoring Program, Boston College, 2015.

Institute for Liberal Arts (ILA) minor grant recipient, Race and Ethics faculty/ graduate student colloquium, 2012-13, Boston College.

ILA major grant recipient, Race and Ethics faculty/ graduate student colloquium, 2011-12, Boston College

ILA major grant recipient, Gender and Embodiment faculty/ graduate student colloquium, 2010-11, Boston College.

Inaugural holder of the Albert J. Fitzgibbons Chair in Philosophy (chair initially for junior faculty; automatically expired with tenure), 2007 – 2009.

Research Incentives Grant recipient, Boston College, College of Arts and Sciences, 2005-2006.

National Endowment for the Humanities/ Core Curriculum Fellowship, Core Curriculum Program, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, 1996-1998.

Teaching Fellowships, Graduate Scholarships, Department of Philosophy, Boston University, 1991-1996.

Bertocci Dissertation Fellowship, Department of Philosophy, Boston University, 1994-95.

Teaching Fellow Prize, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, 1993-1994.

Presidential University Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, 1990-91.

*Phi Beta Kappa*, Earlham College, 1990.

Departmental Honors, Honors Thesis, Psychology, Earlham College, 1990.

**Publications:**

**Books**

*Image and Argument in Plato's Republic*, SUNY Press, July 2020.

*Wounded Heroes: Vulnerability as a Virtue in Greek Tragedy and Philosophy*, Oxford University Press, 2013.

*Plato on the Rhetoric of Philosophers and Sophists*, Cambridge University Press, 2008. (Also translated into Portuguese, 2010 and reprinted in paperback).

**Popular works** *The Ignatian Guide to Forgiveness: Ten Steps to Healing*, Loyola Press, December 2020.

"Discernment: A Partnership with God," *Human Development* 40 (1), 2019, 76-85.

Monthly blog author for Loyola Press's Dot Magis site at [Ignatianspirituality.com](http://Ignatianspirituality.com).

**Articles and**

**Book Chapters**

"Plato's critique of democracy: *Gorgias* and *Republic*," book chapter for the *Oxford Handbook of Ancient Greek Political Thought*, ed. Carol Atak. under contract, writing in progress.

"Socratic Midwifery and the Feminine in Plato's *Theaetetus*," completed, accepted, and under contract for *The Routledge Handbook of Women and Ancient Greek Philosophy*, edited by Sara Brill and Catherine McKeen.

"Vulnerability, Dialogue, and the Limits of Autonomy," book chapter (under review by Cambridge U Press as part of an edited volume)

"Developing Intellectual Empathy in Service Learning Courses" for PULSE volume, eds. Eileen and Meghan Sweeney. Co-authored with Mary Troxell (Boston College). Accepted. Editors are seeking a publisher.

"Love and Soul leading in Plato's *Phaedrus*," *A Handbook on Platonic Love from Antiquity to the Renaissance* (eds. John Dillon

and Carl Sean O'Brien, Cambridge University Press), August 2022.

"İmgeler ve İmgelem Gücü, (Images and Imagination)" translated into Turkish, *Sabah Ülkesi Magazine*, 6/30/2021 issue.

"Myth and Argument in Glaucon's account of Gyges' Ring and Adeimantus' Use of Poetry," *Logos and Mythos*, volume II (ed. William Wians), 2019.

"Why is Knowledge of Ignorance Good?" *Knowledge and Ignorance of the Self in Platonic Philosophy* (Cambridge University Press), eds. James Ambury and Andrew German, Cambridge University Press, 2018.

"Sophist" entry for *The Bloomsbury Handbook to Literary and Cultural Theory* (ed. Jeffrey DiLeo), 2018.

"Wounded gods and wounded men in Homer's *Iliad*," *Exploring Vulnerability*, eds. Heike Springhart and Gunther Thomas, Vandenhoeck and Ruprecht, 2017.

"Rhetoric and Royalty: Odysseus' presentation of the female shades in Hades," *Logos without Rhetoric: The Arts of Language Before Plato* (ed. Robin Reames), U. of South Carolina Press, 2017.

"Plato's *Protagoras*, Comedy, and the Power of *Aporia*," In *Plato's Protagoras: Essays on the Confrontation of Philosophy and Sophistry*, ed. Vigdis Söngé-Møller, Springer, 2017.

"Perspectivism and the Philosophical Rhetoric of the Dialogue Form," *Plato Journal* 16 (2016), 49-57.

"Socrates and Protagoras on Political Rhetoric and Education," *Studies in Philosophy and Education* 37 (2018), 421-22.

"The City of Sows and Sexual Differentiation in Plato's *Republic*," chapter for *Plato's Animals* (eds. Jeremy Bell and Michael Naas), Indiana University Press, 2015.

"Commentary on Ionescu's 'The Place of Pleasure and Knowledge in the Fourfold Articulation of Reality in Plato's *Philebus*,'" *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy* 30 (1), 2015, 33-39.

"Freedom and Responsibility in the Myth of Er," *Ideas y Valores* special issue (Plato and Socratic Politics) 61 (149), September 2012.

Encyclopedia articles on “Rhetoric” and “Sophists” for *Continuum Companion to Plato* (ed G. Press), Continuum Press, 2012.

"Alcidamas, Isocrates, and Plato on speech, writing, and philosophical rhetoric," *Ancient Philosophy* 29 (2), spring 2009.

"Love and Platonic Transcendence in the Music of U2" in *U2 and Philosophy*, ed. Mark A. Wrathall (Open Court, June 2006).

“Sophistry and Philosophy in Plato’s *Republic*,” *Polis* volume 22(2), 2005.

“Reason and Dialectic in the Argument against Protagoras in the *Theaetetus*,” *International Philosophical Quarterly*, volume 45 (1) (March 2005), 21-39.

“Philosophy, Elenchus, and Charmides’s Definitions of *Sophrosune*” *Arethusa* 38 (2005), 133-159.

“Socrates on Simonides: The Use of Poetry in Socratic and Platonic Rhetoric.” *Philosophy and Rhetoric* vol. 32 (4), 1999: 349-367.

“Protagoras on Human Nature, Wisdom, and the Good: The Great Speech and the Hedonism of Plato’s *Protagoras*.” *Ancient Philosophy* vol. 18, 1998, 21-39.

## Reviews

Review of Andrea Nightingale, *Philosophy and Religion in Plato’s Dialogues*, for *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, forthcoming 2024.

Review of *The Gatekeeper: Narrative Voice in Plato’s Dialogues* by Margalit Finkelberg, *International Journal of the Platonic Tradition*, 2020.

Review of *The Rhetoric of Plato’s Republic* by James Kastely, *Review of Metaphysics*, 2017, 353-4.

Review of *Partakers of the Divine: Contemplation and the Practice of Philosophy* by Jacob Sherman, *Theological Studies* 76 (4), November 2015, 877-8.

Review of *Conversation and Self-Sufficiency in Plato* by A.G. Long, *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 52:4, October 2014, 836-7.

Review of *Plato and the Art of Philosophical Writing* by Christopher Rowe, *Ancient Philosophy*, Spring 2011.

Review of *Philosophy in Dialogue: Plato's Many Devices* (ed. Gary Alan Scott), *International Philosophical Quarterly*, 51.1, March 2011, 107-9.

Review of *Trials of Reason: Plato and the Crafting of Philosophy* by David Wolfsdorf for *International Journal for the Classical Tradition*, 17.1, March 2010: 118-23.

Review of Scott Schreiber, *Aristotle on False Reasoning: Language and the World in the Sophistical Refutations* (Albany: SUNY Press, 2003), *Philosophy and Rhetoric* 38(1), 2005: 92-5.

### **Presentations (Recent)**

Commentator, talk by Sonja Tanner "Were Plato's Dialogues Performed?", Ancient Philosophy Society, April 2023.

Invited speaker, "Socratic Midwifery and Barrenness," Universidad Alberto Hurtado (Santiago, Chile, virtual conference), November 2021.

Invited speaker, "Plato on the Rhetoric of Sophists and Philosophers," (virtual), Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, August 2021.

Invited speaker, "Socratic Midwifery" for Routledge Summer Workshop on Women and Ancient Greek Philosophy (virtual), hosted by Fairfield University, June 2021.

Invited speaker at book panel, "Plato's *Republic* for Today," hosted by the Ancient Philosophy Society from Penn State (virtual), April 2021.

Invited speaker, "Sophocles' Philoctetes: From Wounding to Healing," J Getty Villa, a public talk featured in conjunction with a new production of the *Philoctetes*, September 2019.

Invited speaker, "Vulnerability, Dialogue, and the Limits of Autonomy," Conference on Rationality and Self-Governance workshop, Uppsala University, May 2019.

Author meets critic book panel on my *Wounded Heroes*, Central American Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Denver, February 2019.

Invited speaker, “The Strangeness of Citizens and Citizenship of Strangers,” History of Philosophy Society session, Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy annual meeting, October 2018.

Keynote, “Epistemic and Existential Vulnerability in *Oedipus Tyrannus* and Plato’s *Apology*,” Earlham College undergraduate philosophy conference, December 2017.

Panel discussant, Rikers Island film and panel, Boisi Center, Boston College, October 2017.

Invited speaker, “Epistemic and Existential Vulnerability in *Oedipus Tyrannus* and Plato’s *Apology*,” Providence College lecture series, October 2017.

Invited speaker, “Competitive Views of *Philosophia*: Plato, Isocrates, and Aristophanes,” Conference on Philosophy in its Ancient Beginnings: On the Conceptualisation, Criticism, and Justification of Philosophy in Antiquity, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, July 2017.

## Media

“Is Expertise Dangerous?” for *Pulled Up Short* Podcast, with Stanton Wortham and Alexandra Michel, produced by the Lynch School, BC, 2022.

AMDG podcast on forgiveness and politics, December 2020 (<https://soundcloud.com/jesuitconference/why-ignatius-wants-you-to-forgive-with-marina-mccoy>)

Busted Halo interview on forgiveness, December 2020.

Regular monthly blog post writer on Ignatian Spirituality for Loyola Press’s Dotmagis site, ongoing.

Campus Ministry Student Retreats, spiritual companion, 2006-8; 2013 to 2016. (I trained in spiritual direction at BC’s School of Theology and Ministry, 2016-17.)

## Service, University

(Recent): Core Renewal Committee, Boston College, Fall 2021 to present.

Core Renewal Assessments Subcommittee, Fall 2022 to present.

PULSE program advisory board, 2015- present. Regular participant in PULSE spring faculty workshops (May of each year).

Dean's committee for exploration of best practices for medium sized classrooms, summer 2020.

Spiritual director available to STM students, Fall 2019—present.

Spiritual Director, 2021-22 19th Annotated Retreat, Boston College Center for Ignatian Spirituality.

Participant in committee on future of student formation in the Jesuit tradition (led by Christiano Casalini, Dennis Shirley, and Margaret Laurence), fall 2018-spring 2020.

Spiritual companion for STM students and undergrad student for the "Living the Fourth Retreat" through Campus Ministry, fall 2019.

Member of Jesuit Institute seminar, "Spiritual Practice, Compassion, and the Transformation of Desire" (led by Prof Robinette), 2016-17.

Archbishop Romero Scholarship committee, BC, 2012-2017.

"Forgiveness," Presentation to St Thomas More Society, spring 2018.

Participation in a variety of Mission and Ministry programs such as Intersections Civitas lunches, Writing retreat, Nicaragua trip, Thresholds group, and Compañeras pilgrimage, ongoing.

### **Service, Department (recent)**

Hiring committee, Aristotle search, 2022-23.

Placement committee for doctoral student placement, 2022-23.

Placement Coordinator for doctoral students, 2021-22.

Program committee and faculty participant, fall 2021 Consilium Retreat in partnership with Mission and Ministry (Mike Sacco's office), graduate student retreat.

Faculty mentor to two professors of the practice (McGill and



Troxell) and one associate professor (Stan), 2018-present.

Faculty advisor to doctoral, masters, and undergraduate students.

Member of *Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy committee*, 2011—present.

Director of Graduate Studies (Interim), Philosophy Department, Boston College, 2020-21.

Graduate admissions committee, spring 2020, 2021.

Chair of graduate admissions committee, Philosophy, Boston College, spring 2021.

Departmental Liaison, Phi Beta Kappa awards, Boston College, 2007-2020.

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Philosophy Department, Boston College, 2012-2015. *Created and administered new departmental honors program; developed initial syllabus for Honors seminar; developed new major tracks; coordinated revision of required texts for Philosophy of the Person; developed departmental assessments process for Philosophy of Person course.*

Member of search committee for Joseph Chair in philosophy, 2016-17.

Teaching Seminar teacher (weekly seminar for doctoral students training to teach), 2015-2016.

Director of Undergraduate Studies (Interim), Philosophy Department, BC, 2008- 2009.

**Service, External**

**(recent):** Co-director, Ancient Philosophy Society, 2020-2023, and member of the board, 2016-2023.

External referee, Canada Research Chairs, 2022-23.

Editorial board, *Polis* journal, 2013-present.

Referee, Madrid Institute for Advanced Study, 2020.

Advisory Board member, Rational Self-Governance grant, Uppsala University, 2017-present.

Manuscript reviewer for various presses including Oxford, Cambridge, SUNY, Indiana, and Northwestern University Presses, ongoing.

Referee for various journals including *Ancient Philosophy*, *Polis*, *Epoché*, *Journal of the International Plato Society*, *New Political Science*, *Classical World*, *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, *Philosophy*, *Mouseion*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *Peitho*, ongoing.

National Endowment for the Humanities, Awards Review Panel, “Enduring Questions” grants, fall 2012.

**Community**

Prison volunteer, Norfolk Correctional Facility, June 2006-March 2020. On occasion, I teach and discuss theology, spirituality, and philosophy with inmates in the Dominican Laity group within the prison.

Regular column writer, parish bulletin, St John Chrysostom Church, West Roxbury.

Women and Faith speaker, “Forgiveness: an Ignatian Perspective”, Randolph, MA, December 2019.

Speaker, “Ignatian Spirituality” Opening fall event, Ignatian Volunteer Corps meeting, Chestnut Hill, MA September 2018.

**Professional Organizations**

Ancient Philosophy Society  
Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy  
Philosophers in Jesuit Education