

IMOGEN M. SULLIVAN

(she/her)

Assistant Professor of Philosophy
Program Director for Philosophy, History, and Religious Studies
Department of Historical and Political Studies
Arcadia University

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Glenside, PA 19038
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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Trans, Queer, and Feminist Philosophies, Cross-cultural
Methodology, East Asian Philosophies, Social and Political
Philosophy, Ethics

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Logic, South Asian Philosophies, World Religions

EDUCATION

In Progress M.A. in Counseling, Arcadia University

2016 Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

Dissertation: “The Ethics of Vital Relationality: Confucianism, Care Ethics, and the
Challenge to Modern Moral Philosophy”

Committee: Roger Ames (chair), Vrinda Dalmiya, Ken Kipnis, Joseph Tanke,
David McCraw

2010 M.A. in Philosophy with distinction, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

2008 B.A. in Religion, Summa Cum Laude, The George Washington University
Phi Beta Kappa | Departmental Honors | University Honors Program

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2021-Present Program Director for Philosophy, History, and Religious Studies, Arcadia University

2019-Present Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Arcadia University

2018-2019 Visiting Assistant Professor, College of Charleston

2018 Spring Visiting Lecturer, Wellesley College

2017-2018 Part-time Lecturer, Northeastern University

2016-2017 Full-time Lecturer, Kennesaw State University

2015-2016 Part-time Instructor, Seattle University

PUBLICATIONS

2021* “The Need for More than Role Relations: Queer Lives, Social Group Identities, and
Confucian Self-cultivation.” *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 20, no. 2: 269-287.

**Runner up for 2021 Dao Best Essay Award*

2017 “庄子，松尾芭蕉和独居：庄子“逍遥游”和松尾芭蕉“逍遥游”之比较研究 (Zhuangzi,
Bashō, and Solitude: A Comparison of Zhuangzi’s *Xiaoyaoyou* and Bashō’s *Shōyōyū*).”
商丘师范大学学报 *Journal of Shangqiu Normal University* 33, no. 5: 23-27. Translated by
a staff translator.

2016 “Simone de Beauvoir and Confucian Role Ethics: Role-Relational Ambiguity and
Confucian Mystification.” *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy* 31, no. 3: 620-35.

- 2014 “Relational Persons, Relational Ethics: Existential Trust and Its Significance for Contemporary Ethical Discourse.” In *Papers from the 2013 University of Tokyo – University of Hawai‘i Summer Residential Institute in Comparative Philosophy*. Tokyo: University of Tokyo Center for Philosophy.

Edited Volumes

- 2021 *One Corner of the Square: Essays on the Philosophy of Roger T. Ames*. Co-edited with Joshua Mason. University of Hawai‘i Press.
- 2013 *Cross Currents: Comparative Responses to Global Interdependence*. Co-edited with Cindy Scheopner. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

Book Reviews

- 2018 *The Bloomsbury Research Handbook of Chinese Philosophy Methodologies*, ed. Sor-hoon Tan. *Comparative and Continental Philosophy* 10, no. 3: 290-94.
- 2017 *Confucian Propriety and Ritual Learning: A Philosophical Interpretation*, by Geir Sigurdsson. *Comparative and Continental Philosophy* 9, no. 1: 107-109.
- 2016 *Moral Relativism and Chinese Philosophy: David Wong and His Critics*, eds. Yang Xiao and Yong Huang. *Philosophy East and West* 66, no. 4: 1381-1385.
- 2015 *Pattern and Person: Ornament, Society, and Self in Classical China*, by Martin J. Powers. *China Review International* 20, no. 1-2: 166-170.
- 2012 *Sun Tzu: Master Sun’s Art of War*, trans. Philip J. Ivanhoe. *China Review International* 19, no. 2: 268-273.
- 2011 *Expanding Process: Exploring Philosophical and Theological Transformations in China and the West*, by John H. Berthrong. *Philosophy East and West* 61, no. 4: 741-744.
- 2010 *John Dewey, Confucius, and Global Philosophy*, by Joseph Grange. *Philosophy East and West* 60, no. 3: 427-430.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lecture Series

- 2016 “Confucian Philosophy in the Twenty-First Century: Responsible Cross-Cultural Comparisons in Our Contemporary Context.” A five-lecture series on gender and classical Chinese philosophy at the Nishan Summer Institute for Confucian Studies, Qufu, China.

Invited Academic Talks

- 2023 “Finding Family with Mencius: What Can Mencius Tell Us About Neglect, Rejection, and Chosen Family?” Critical Confucianism Colloquium. Department of Philosophy. University of San Francisco. San Francisco, CA.
- 2020 “Social Survival, Philosophy, and Living Well: On the Importance of Philosophizing from Marginalized Perspectives.” Faculty Presentation Series. Humanities Research Lab. Arcadia University. Glenside, PA.
- 2018 “On the Importance of Philosophizing from Marginalized Perspectives: Philosophy, Survival, and Living Well.” PhilosoTea. Department of Philosophy. Wellesley College. Wellesley, MA.

- 2017 “Role-Relational Ambiguity and Confucian Mystification: Toward a Critical Confucianism.” The Mike Ryan Lecture Series. Department of History and Philosophy. Kennesaw State University. Kennesaw, GA.
- 2016 “Ethics, Comparative Methodology, and the Confucian-Care Debate: Crossing the Epistemic Boundaries of Culture and Gender.” Brown Bag Lecture Series. Department of History and Philosophy. Kennesaw State University. Kennesaw, GA.

Workshop Presentations

- 2023 “When Roots Are Poisoned: Transgenerational Trauma and Human Becoming in Early Confucianism.” Critical Confucianism Colloquium Workshop. Department of Philosophy. University of San Francisco. San Francisco, CA.
- “On Being A Fish In A Tree: A Daoist Contribution to Trans and Queer Philosophy.” The Mentoring Workshop for Early Career Women* Faculty in Philosophy. University of Missouri. Columbia, MO.
- “Finding Family with Mencius: What Can Mencius Tell Us About Neglect, Rejection, and Chosen Family?” Threshold Thinking Workshop. Arcadia University. Glenside, PA.
- 2022 “Going Rambling Without an Orientation: Zhuangzi, Anzaldúa, and Bisexual Consciousness.” “Journeying Towards Freedom” Steinbrucker Workshop. Arcadia University. Glenside, PA.
- 2014 “Vital Relationality: The Relationally Constituted Person in Care Ethics and Confucian Role Ethics.” International Workshop in Comparative Philosophy. University of Kobe. Kobe, Japan.

Academic Conference Presentations

- 2022 “Going Rambling Without an Orientation: Zhuangzi, Anzaldúa, and Bisexual Consciousness” at the American Philosophy Association Pacific Division Meeting, Association of Chinese Philosophers in North America panel, Vancouver, Canada.
- 2019 “The *Junzi*’s Shame: French Existentialism, Classical Confucianism, and the Lived Experiences of Sexual Minorities Today” at the Diverse Lineages of Existentialism II: Critical Race, Feminist, & Continental Philosophy Conference, Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy panel, Washington, DC.
- 2019 “The *Junzi*’s Shame: Publics, Counterpublics, and Confucian Self-Cultivation for Gender and Sexual Minorities” at the South Carolina Society for Philosophy Meeting, Columbia, SC.
- 2019 “The *Junzi*’s Shame: Classical Confucian Ethics, the Politics of Shame, and Gender and Sexual Minorities” at the American Philosophy Association Central Division Meeting, Society for LGBTQIA Philosophy panel, Denver, CO.
- 2017 “What Does the Role Ethicist See? Queer Identity and the Difference Between Virtue Ethics and Role Ethics” at the American Philosophy Association Pacific Division Meeting, Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy panel, Seattle, WA.
- 2017 “The Need for More than a Preemptive Vision: Queer Identities, Relational Constitution, and Confucian Role Ethics” at the 2017 Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ.
- 2016 “The Sage in Silicon Valley: Confucianism in the Age of the Internet” at the East-West Philosophers’ Conference, Honolulu, HI.

- 2015 “Confucian Social Roles and Beauvoir’s Existential Ambiguity” at the Pacific Association for the Continental Tradition Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.
- 2015 “Knowing One’s ‘Role’: Confucianism, Care Ethics, and Constitutive Role Relations” at the American Philosophy Association Pacific Division Meeting, Association of Chinese Philosophers in North America panel, Vancouver, Canada.
- 2015 “What Are Other People If Not Hell? The No Exit Objection and Intimate Relations in Care Ethics and Confucianism” at the American Philosophy Association Pacific Division Meeting, The International Society for Comparative Studies of Chinese and Western Philosophy panel, Vancouver, Canada.
- 2015 “Agency and Intersubjectivity: The Relationally Constituted Person in Beauvoir’s Existentialist Ethics and in Confucian Role Ethics” at the Fourth Forum for Japanese and Comparative Philosophy, Kobe, Japan.
- 2013 “Relational Autonomy in Confucian Ethics and Care Ethics” at the American Philosophy Association Eastern Division Meeting, Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy panel, Baltimore, MD.
- 2013 “Foucault, Confucianism, and the Family” at the Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle Annual Meeting, Shanghai, China.
- 2013 “Truth-Makers: Ethics as First Philosophy in Confucianism and the Final Foucault” at the Uehiro Cross Currents Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, Honolulu, HI.
- 2011 “Care, Virtue, and Roles: A Comparison of Ethical Particularisms” at the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI.
- 2009 “On Reconceiving *Cheng* 誠 with the Relational Self Model” at the American Philosophy Association Eastern Division Meeting, Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy panel, New York, NY.

Additional Conference Participation

- 2019 Panel Chair for a Society for LGBTQIA Philosophy panel at the APA Central Division Mtg.
- 2017 Panel Chair for a SACP panel at the APA Pacific Division Meeting.
- 2017 Panel Chair for an ACPA panel at the APA Pacific Division Meeting.
- 2016 Plenary Presentation: “Celebrating the Teacher-Student Experience” with Jim Behuniak at the East-West Philosophers’ Conference
- 2016 Panel Chair at the East-West Philosophers’ Conference
- 2015 Panel Commentator for an International Society for Chinese Philosophy (ISCP) panel at the APA Pacific Division Meeting
- 2013 Panel Chair for an SACP panel at the APA Eastern Division Meeting
- 2012 Panel Chair at the Uehiro Cross Currents Graduate Student Conference

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Podcast Interviews

- 2021 “Queer Philosophy with Dr. I.M. Sullivan.” *The Pride Guide*, Season 2, Episode 4. CSU LGBTQ+ Student Services. Septemeber 17, 2021. <https://theprideguide.buzzsprout.com>.

Online Print Interviews

- 2020 “Dr. Sullivan on Bringing Queer Philosophy into Academia and Everyday Life.” Arcadia University Website. Spring 2020.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Arcadia University

AY 2022-23	Senior Thesis Seminar I (PL490) Senior Thesis Seminar II (PL491) Global Ethics (PL360/IP560) Queer Ideas (PL345/IP589) A Glitch In The Matrix: Philosophy, Fantasy, and Science Fiction (FY103)	
AY 2021-22	Senior Thesis Seminar I (PL490) Senior Thesis Seminar II (PL491) Independent Study: Francophone Existentialism (PL389) Sex & Love (PL385) Authenticity (PL385) Social Justice (PL350) East Asian Philosophy (PL285) Introduction to Logic (PL155)	
AY 2020-21	Senior Thesis Seminar I (PL490) Senior Thesis Seminar II (PL491) Global Ethics (PL385/IP585) Queer Ideas (PL285) Introduction to Political Philosophy (PL185) Ethics (PL175) Applied Logic (PL155 and Independent Study)	
AY 2019-20	Senior Project (PL499) Moral and Social Problems in Medicine (PL385) Modern Political Philosophy (PL309) Philosophy of Social Justice (PL285) Asian Philosophies (PL285) Ethics (PL175) Introduction to Philosophy (PL150)	

College of Charleston

AY 2018-19	Asian Philosophies: Feminist and Queer Perspectives Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies Environmental Ethics World Religions	*3 sections *3 sections
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Wellesley College

2018 Spring	Asian Philosophies: Feminist and Queer Perspectives Global Justice	
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Northeastern University

AY 2017-18	Moral and Social Problems in Medicine	*4 sections
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Kennesaw State University

AY 2016-17	Methods and Themes in Comparative Philosophy Ways of Knowing World Religions	*6 sections
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Seattle University

AY 2015-16	Ethical Reasoning in Health Care Philosophy of the Human Person	*3 sections *2 sections
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University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

AY 2010-13	Deductive Logic [Roles: Instructor, Teaching Assistant, Grader] Introduction to Philosophy [Roles: Instructor, Teaching Assistant]	*5 sections *2 sections
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GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

- 2023 Fall Pre-Tenure Major Sabbatical
- A one-semester full sabbatical to research, develop, and draft a book proposal on non-Euromodern philosophical approaches to trans and queer existence.
- 2022-2024 Dr. Norman Johnston Faculty Fellow in the Humanities and Social Sciences
- A two-year fellowship funding philosophical research into liminal existence between social categories and the ethical and sociopolitical implications that flow therefrom. In addition to research, this position involves facilitating a pair of spring research workshops joining faculty and senior students in dialogue on novel research pushing disciplinary boundaries.
- 2021 Runner-up, *Dao* Best Essay Award for “The Need for More than Role Relations.”
- 2021 Dean’s Discretionary Funding
- Awarded funding for the design and implementation of a new Philosophy B.A. emphasizing a decolonial and interdisciplinary approach to contemporary philosophy.
- 2020 Innovative Programming Grant
- \$7,800 exploration grant awarded to Annette Halpin and I.M. Sullivan for a collaborative exploration of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) between the Department of Historical and Political Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Global Business.
- 2013 Mansfield Freeman Dissertation Award
- \$15,000 award for the top doctoral student in philosophy at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
- 2013 University of Hawai‘i College of Arts and Humanities Dissertation Research Award
- \$2,000 award for the top four doctoral students who show strong potential for significant scholarship and research accomplishments
- 2013 C.F. & Grace Ning Excellence in Chinese Studies Graduate Student Award
- \$500 award for the top graduate student in Chinese Studies at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
- 2010-12 Wing-tsit Chan Fellowship for Chinese Philosophy
- \$10,000 award plus housing at the East-West Center for the top two students in Chinese philosophy at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
- 2011 Uehiro Student Essay Award
- \$750 award for the best graduate student essay in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
 - Paper presentation at the 2011 Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy annual meeting
- 2010 Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship
- \$7,500 competitive grant to complete classical Chinese language study and to develop professional academic translation skills
- 2009 Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Grant
- \$5,000 competitive grant for immersive Chinese language study at the Inter-University Program in Beijing, China

LANGUAGES

Mandarin Chinese:	Academic Proficiency	Japanese:	Intermediate
Classical Chinese:	Academic Proficiency	French:	Lapsed Proficiency

Professional Philosophical Translations (Mandarin to English)

- 2010 “Reproductive, Familial, Loving, and Humane Relations: How Did Confucius Reveal ‘the Humane Relation’?” by Chen Hongxing. *Frontiers of Philosophy in China* 5, no. 4: 506-22.
- 2010 “The Significance of *Xuwu* (Nothingness) in Chinese Aesthetics” by Fan Minghua. *Frontiers of Philosophy in China* 5, no. 4: 560-74.
- 2010 “Political Thought in Early Confucianism” by Liang Tao. *Frontiers of Philosophy in China* 5, no. 2: 212-36.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2022 Mental Health First Aid Certification (Arcadia)
- Training for faculty and staff to learn how to identify students in crisis, learn skills that will promote help-seeking behavior, and connect students to mental health resources.
- 2021 Disrupting Bias at Work Training (Arcadia)
- Training for faculty and staff to learn how to identify and intervene in situations of work-place bias.
- 2020 LGBTQ+ Ally Training (Arcadia)
- Training as a campus point of contact to provide a safe, supportive environment for student members of the LGBTQ+ community on campus
- 2019 REACH Program Teaching Certification (CofC)
- Pedagogical training to provide inclusive learning for students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Teaching an inclusive course involves modifying course assignments and grading rubrics to align with the student’s capabilities, meeting weekly with the student’s tutor, and corresponding weekly with the REACH Program support coordinator.
- 2018 LGBTQ+ Safe Zone Faculty Certification (CofC)
- Training as a campus point of contact to provide a safe, supportive environment for student members of the LGBTQ+ community on campus
- 2017 GLBTIQ Safe Space Faculty Certification (KSU)
- Training as a campus point of contact to provide a safe, supportive environment for student members of the LGBTQ+ community on campus
- 2016 Build-a-Webcourse Workshop: *Quality Matters* Certification. (KSU)
- Training in online course design
- 2013 The 2013 University of Tokyo – University of Hawai‘i Summer Residential Institute in Comparative Philosophy
- 3-week immersive program in Japan on cross-cultural methodologies and philosophy
- 2013 Workshop for Writing Intensive Focus Instructors, UH Mānoa Writing Program
- Pedagogical training for designing writing intensive courses for undergraduate classrooms and first-generation college students
- 2009 Inter-University Program, Advanced Mandarin Language Training, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China
- Immersive summer language training
- 2008 Mandarin Training Center, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan
- Immersive summer language training
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SERVICE ACTIVITIES

To the University

2021-present	Program Director for Philosophy, History, and Religious Studies
2020-2022	Honor Code Working Group, Arcadia Anti-Black Racism Initiative
2020-2022	Communities of Practice Advisory Board, Arcadia Anti-Black Racism Initiative
2019-present	<i>The Compass</i> , Philosophy and Religious Studies reviewer
2021 Spring	“Coming Out” University Seminar, panel member
2020 Spring	“Coming Out” University Seminar, panel member
2019-2020	Development and Launch of the Philosophy B.A. Program

To the Profession

2017-present	Article Referee for <i>Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy</i>
2016-present	Article Referee for <i>Comparative and Continental Philosophy</i>
2011-present	Article Referee for <i>Philosophy East and West</i>

Prior to Arcadia University

2018-2019	Sustainability-themed Living Learning Community, Faculty Partner (CofC)
2018-2019	LGBTQ+ Safe Zone Program, Executive Committee Member (CofC)
2018-2019	Gender and Sexuality Equity Center, Executive Committee Member (CofC)
2009-2011 AY	Coordinator for the 2011 International Uehiro Cross Currents Conference (UH)

ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Professional Organizations:

- Association of Chinese Philosophers in North America (ACPA)
- American Philosophical Association (APA)
- National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)
- Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP)
- Society for LGBTQIA Philosophy
- Society for Phenomenology and Existentialist Philosophy (SPEP)

Honor Societies:

- Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society
- Theta Alpha Kappa National Honor Society for Religious Studies and Theology