

Dr. Jennifer Wilson Mulnix

Associate Professor of Philosophy
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HIGHER EDUCATION

- **Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Iowa**, Iowa City, Iowa. Conferred July 2006.
Dissertation: *Naturalism, Rationalism, and Rethinking the A Priori/A Posteriori Distinction*.
Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Richard Fumerton, F. Wendell Miller Professor of Philosophy.
University of Iowa Graduate College Seashore Dissertation Fellow.
- **M.A. in Philosophy, University of Iowa**, Iowa City, Iowa. Conferred May 2004.
- **B.A. in Philosophy and Political Science, University of Nebraska-Omaha**, Omaha, Nebraska.
Conferred May 1999, *summa cum laude*.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Areas of Specialization: Epistemology, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Happiness, Critical Thinking, and Philosophical Pedagogy.

Areas of Competence: Ethics, Applied Ethics, Political Philosophy, History of Early Modern Philosophy, Metaphysics, and Asian Philosophy.

Currently, I am primarily focused on the philosophy of happiness and well-being. My research interests include the normative value of happiness, whether contemplating happiness can make one happier, and the recent trend of nations promoting happiness through public policy.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

A. Books:

- Mulnix, Jennifer Wilson, and M.J. Mulnix. (2015). *Happy Lives, Good Lives: A Philosophical Examination*. Broadview Press.
- Mulnix, Jennifer Wilson, and M.J. Mulnix, eds. (2015). *Theories of Happiness: An Anthology*. Broadview Press.

B. Book Chapters:

- Mulnix, M.J., and Jennifer Wilson Mulnix (2014). "Doing Philosophy--The Sooner the Better." In *Philosophy Through Teaching*, Emily Esch, Kevin Hermberg, Rory Kraft (eds.), Philosophy Documentation Center.

C. Articles:

- Mulnix, Jennifer Wilson (2013). "Reliabilism and Demon World Victims." *Tópicos* 44: 35-82.
- Mulnix, Jennifer Wilson (2012). "Rethinking the *A Priori/A Posteriori* Distinction." *Logos & Episteme* 3(2): 261-277.
- Mulnix, Jennifer Wilson (2012). "Semantic Externalism, Self-Knowledge, and Slow Switching." *Synthesis Philosophica* 26(2): 375-390.
- Mulnix, Jennifer Wilson (2012). "Thinking Critically About Critical Thinking." *Educational Philosophy and Theory* 44(5): 464-479.
- Mulnix, Jennifer Wilson (2011). "Explanatory Unification and Scientific Understanding." *Acta Philosophica* 20(2): 175-194.
- Mulnix, Jennifer Wilson, and M.J. Mulnix (2010). "Using a Writing Portfolio to Teach Critical Thinking Skills." *Teaching Philosophy* 33(1): 27-54.

- Mulnix, Jennifer Wilson (2008). “Reliabilism, Intuition, and Mathematical Knowledge.” *Filozofia* 62(8): 715-723.
- Mulnix, Jennifer Wilson (2008). “Patient Autonomy and the Freedom to Act against One’s Self-Interest.” *Clinical Laboratory Science* 21(2): 114-115.

UNPUBLISHED WORK

A. Articles Submitted for Publication

- Mulnix, M.J., and Jennifer Wilson Mulnix. “Justice and National Well-Being.”

B. Articles in Progress

- Mulnix, M.J., and Jennifer Wilson Mulnix. “Why Happiness Must Be Normative.”

TALKS AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

“Justice and National Well-Being”

- Salem State University, Salem, MA; April 2015. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Invited Talk.
- Wheaton College, Norton, MA; November 5, 2014. Philosophy Department Colloquium Series. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Invited Talk.
- The Northern New England Philosophical Association Annual Conference; University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, North Dartmouth, MA; October 18, 2014. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Refereed Conference.
- International Well-Being and Public Policy Conference; Hamilton College, Clinton, NY; June 11, 2014. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Refereed Conference.

“Building Philosophical Skills”

- Twentieth International Workshop Conference on Teaching Philosophy, American Association of Philosophy Teachers; The College of St. Benedict’s and St. John’s University, Collegeville, MN, August 2, 2014. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Refereed Conference.

“Who’s the Happy Person? Part Two”

- University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Dartmouth, MA; March 25, 2015. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Invited Talk.
- Salem State University, Salem, MA; February 24, 2014. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Invited Talk.

“Buddhism and Happiness”

- University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Dartmouth, MA; Philosophy Association Event, December 5, 2012. Invited Talk.

“Teaching Courses on the Happy Life, the Good Life, and the Moral Life”

- Nineteenth International Workshop Conference on Teaching Philosophy, American Association of Philosophy Teachers; St. Edward’s University, Austin, TX; July 27, 2012. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Refereed Conference.

“Teaching Philosophy Through Lived Experience”

- Nineteenth International Workshop Conference on Teaching Philosophy, American Association of Philosophy Teachers; St. Edward’s University, Austin, TX; July 26, 2012. Refereed Conference.

“Who’s the Happy Person?”

- University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Dartmouth, MA; April 4, 2012. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Invited Talk.
- Wheaton College, Norton, MA; March 21, 2012. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Invited Talk.
- Salem State University, Salem, MA; March 19, 2012. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Invited Talk.

“How to Improve Our Students’ Critical Thinking Skills through Problem-Based Writing Assignments”

- University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Dartmouth, MA; Office of Faculty Development Series “The Critical Writing Project,” September 21, 2011. Invited Talk.

“Does Teaching the Philosophy of Happiness Make One’s Students Happier?”

- American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, AAPT session on “Teaching the Philosophy of Happiness,” San Diego, April 23, 2011. Co-presented with Dr. Christina Hendricks. Refereed Conference.

“A Reliabilist Account of Mathematical Intuition and *A Priori* Knowledge”

- René Descartes Lectures 2010: “Calculation, Intuition, and A Priori Knowledge,” The Tilburg Center for Logic, General Ethics, and Philosophy of Science, Tilburg University, Tilburg, Netherlands. October 6, 2010. Refereed Conference.

“What is Happiness, and Can Thinking About It Make One Happier?”

- American Association of Philosophy Teachers 18th Biennial International Workshop Conference on Teaching Philosophy, Coastal Carolina University in Conway, SC, August 1, 2010. Refereed Conference.
- MidSouth Philosophy Conference at the University of Memphis, March 6, 2010. Refereed Conference.
- Northern New England Philosophy Association Conference at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, October 17, 2009. Refereed Conference.
- Salem State College Graduate Research Symposium, Panel Presentation, May 2, 2009.

“Using a Service-Learning Project as a Real Life Application of Course Content”

- American Association of Philosophy Teachers 18th Biennial International Workshop Conference on Teaching Philosophy, Coastal Carolina University in Conway, SC, July 30, 2010. Refereed Conference.

“Can the Empirical Psychologist Teach the Philosopher Anything about Happiness?”

- Society for Applied Philosophy Annual Conference, St. Anne’s College, Oxford, UK. July 2-4, 2010. Refereed Conference.

“Mulnix vs. Mulnix Philosophy Battle Royale: Patient Autonomy vs. Medical Paternalism”

- Salem State University, Salem, MA; March 1, 2010. Debate between Dr. Jennifer Wilson Mulnix and Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Invited Talk.
- University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Dartmouth, MA; May 13, 2008. Debate between Dr. Jennifer Wilson Mulnix and Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Invited Talk.

Commentary on Benjamin Rider’s “Fear of Death Revisited: Epicurus on the Relative Value of Lives”

- MidSouth Philosophy Conference at the University of Memphis, March 5, 2010.

“Buddhist Views of Environmental Sustainability”

- University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Dartmouth, MA; Office of Sustainability Panel on “Cross-Cultural Representations of Sustainability,” February 26, 2009. Invited Talk.

“Thinking Critically about Critical Thinking.”

- Northern New England Philosophy Association Conference at Colby College, Waterville, ME, October 25, 2008. Refereed Conference.

“Measuring Critical Evaluation Skills through the Use of Writing Portfolio Projects”

- American Association of Philosophy Teachers 17th Biennial International Workshop Conference on Teaching Philosophy, University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada, August 8, 2008. Co-presented with Dr. M.J. Mulnix. Refereed Conference.

“Reliabilism, Intuition, and Mathematical Knowledge”

- Fifth Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, January 14, 2007. Refereed Conference.

Commentary on Eric Loomis’s “Empirical Equivalence in the Quine-Carnap Debate”

- American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Chicago, April 2005.

“Rethinking the *A Priori/A Posteriori* Distinction”

- Canadian Society for Epistemology, International Symposium on *A Priori* Knowledge, Sherbrooke University, October 1-2, 2004. Refereed Conference.

“A Reliabilist Account of *A Priori* Knowledge”

- Illinois Philosophical Association meeting, November 2003. Refereed Conference.
- Iowa Philosophical Society meeting, November 2003. Refereed Conference.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS

- Elected Member of the American Philosophical Association (APA) Committee on the Teaching of Philosophy, 3-year term: 2012-2015.
- Elected Board Member of the American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT) Executive Board, two 2-year terms: 2014-2016, 2012-2014.
- UMass Dartmouth Davis Educational Foundation Grant for the Implementation of Blended Learning for the Improvement of Student Learning Faculty Mentor Spring 2015 and Faculty Fellow Fall 2012.
- Office of Faculty Development Contemplative Practices in the Classroom Faculty Fellow Fall 2014-Spring 2015.
- The University Honors Program Service Award for Outstanding Service by a Student was renamed as ‘The Jennifer W. Mulnix Service Award’ in 2012.
- Recipient of the ‘Robert G. Darst Service Award’ for Outstanding Service by a Faculty or Staff member to the University Honors Program: 2012.
- Service-Learning Faculty Fellow: 2010-2011; 2009-2010.

UMD PHILOSOPHY COURSES

Introduction to Philosophy (PHL 101), Introduction to Ethics (PHL 215), History of Western Philosophy: Modern (PHL 222), Asian Philosophy (PHL 243), Theories of Knowledge (PHL 301), Philosophy of Mind (PHL 304), Philosophy of Happiness (PHL 340), Philosophy of the Good Life (PHL 341), Buddhism (PHL 365), Seminar: Advanced Topics in Epistemology and Metaphysics (PHL 409)