

Gregory L. Bock
Bart Brooks Professor of Ethics and Leadership
The University of Texas at Tyler
gbock@uttyler.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Tennessee, 2012

- Dissertation: *Medically Valid Religious Beliefs*

M.A. Philosophy of Religion and Ethics, Biola University, 2004

M.A. TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), Azusa Pacific University, 2000

B.A. Psychology (major) and Philosophy (minor), California State University, Sacramento, 1997

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Bart Brooks Professor of Ethics and Leadership, The University of Texas at Tyler, 08/22 to present
Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion (with tenure) The University of Texas at Tyler, 08/22 to present

Adjunct Associate Professor, School of Medicine, The University of Texas at Tyler, 08/22 to present

Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion, The University of Texas at Tyler, 01/17 to 08/22

Senior Lecturer of Philosophy and Religion, The University of Texas at Tyler, 08/15 to 01/17

Associate Professor of Philosophy, Walters State Community College, 08/12 to 08/15

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Walters State Community College, 08/08 to 07/12

Adjunct Instructor of Philosophy, Walters State Community College, 01/06 to 05/08

Graduate Teaching Associate, Department of Philosophy, University of Tennessee, 08/06 to 07/08

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Philosophy, University of Tennessee, 01/06 to 08/06

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Ethics, Bioethics, Forgiveness

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Religion, Applied Ethics

BOOKS

Author

Unforgiveness: Essays on Anger and Love (forthcoming, Lexington/Fortress Press)

Editor

Philosophy of Forgiveness, Volume VI: Politics, Law, and War edited and introduced by Gregory L. Bock (Wilmington, Delaware: Vernon Press, forthcoming)

QAnon, Chaos, and the Cross: Christianity and Conspiracy Theories co-edited with Michael W. Austin (Eerdmans, 2023)

Righteous Indignation: Christian Philosophical and Theological Perspectives on Anger co-edited with Court D. Lewis (Fortress Press, 2021)

The Ethics of Anger co-edited with Court D. Lewis (New York: Lexington Press, 2020)

The Philosophy of Forgiveness, Volume IV: Christian Perspectives on Forgiveness edited and introduced by Gregory L. Bock (Wilmington, Delaware: Vernon Press, 2019)

The Philosophy of Forgiveness, Volume III: Forgiveness in World Religions edited and introduced by Gregory L. Bock (Wilmington, Delaware: Vernon Press, 2018)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Bonhoeffer, Kierkegaard, and Conditional Pacifism” *Religions*, 16:5, 536 (2025)
<https://doi.org/10.3390/rel16050536>

“The Analogy between Divine Forgiveness and Legal Pardon: A Response to William Lane Craig” *Philosophia Christi* 26:1 (2024): 157-170

“Should Pharma Companies Waive Their COVID Vaccine Patents? A Legal and Ethical Appraisal” (with Tammy Cowart and Tsurriel Rashi) *Laws*, 12:47 (2023): 1-11

“The Trouble with Inferring Divine Punishment: A Response to James S. Spiegel” *Journal of Biblical and Theological Studies*, 6:1 (2021): 135-141

“Guns and Peace Building,” *Syndicate* (2020)

“The End of Religious Exemptions from Immunization Requirements?” *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 46 (2020): 114-117

“Forgiveness as a Right? – Author Meets Critics” (with Court D. Lewis, David Boersema, and Jennifer Kling), *The Acorn: Philosophical Studies in Pacifism and Nonviolence*, 19:1 (2019): 19-41

“Isn’t that Euthanasia?” (with Annette Mendola), *Hastings Center Report*, 46:2 (2016): 9-11

“Faith and Futility in the ICU” (with Annette Mendola), *Hastings Center Report* 45:1 (2015): 9-10

“The Tolerance of Ritual Male Infant Circumcision,” *The American Journal of Bioethics* 15:2 (2015): 48-49

“Religious Liberty and Snake-Handling Churches,” *The Mildred Haun Review* (2014): 3-10

“Surrogate Decision Making and Intellectual Virtue,” *Journal of Clinical Ethics* 25:4 (2014): 291-95

“The Ethics of Refusing Medical Treatment,” *Revista Clinica Espanola* 214:7 (2014): 381-382

“Global Bioethics and Respect for Tradition: A Response to Ruth Macklin,” *Ethics & Medicine* 30:3 (2014): 167-174

“Korsgaard and Non-Sentient Life,” *Between the Species* 17:1 (2014): 74-84

“Cultural Sensitivity in Paediatrics,” *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 39 (2013): 579-581

“Jehovah’s Witnesses and Autonomy: Honouring the Refusal of Blood Transfusions,” *Journal of Medical Ethics* 38 (2012): 652-656

“Making Martyrs of Our Children: Religiously-Based Requests in Pediatrics,” *Ethics & Medicine* 28:2 (2012): 89-98

“Hume and Religious Miracles: A Reply to Robert Larmer,” *Philosophia Christi* 13:1 (2011): 165-168

“Understanding David Hume’s Argument against Miracles: Establishing a Religion on the Testimony of a Miracle,” *Philosophia Christi* 12:2 (2010): 353-371

“Medically Valid Religious Beliefs,” *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 34:6 (2008): 437-440

BOOK CHAPTERS

“Careful Reasoning Guide,” (with Michael W. Austin) in *QAnon, Chaos, and the Cross: Christianity and Conspiracy Theories*, edited by Michael W. Austin and Gregory L. Bock (Eerdmans, 2023): 271-276.

“Getting Angry,” in *QAnon, Chaos, and the Cross: Christianity and Conspiracy Theories*, edited by Michael W. Austin and Gregory L. Bock (Eerdmans, 2023): 76-83.

“Forgiveness and Racism: Answering the Condonation and Resignation Objections,” (with Jason Cook) in *Forgiveness Confronts Race, Relationships and the Social: The Philosophy of Forgiveness, Volume V*, edited by Court D. Lewis (Wilmington, Delaware, Vernon Press, 2022): 39-52.

“Anger in an Ethics of Love,” in *Righteous Indignation*, edited by Gregory L. Bock and Court D. Lewis (Fortress Press, 2021): 157-167.

“Understanding Joseph Butler’s Sermons on Resentment and Forgiveness,” in *The Ethics of Anger*, edited by Court D. Lewis and Gregory L. Bock (New York: Lexington Press, 2020): 103-114.

“Avoiding the Dark Side: Anger in Popular Culture” (with Court D. Lewis), in *The Ethics of Anger*, edited by Court D. Lewis and Gregory L. Bock (New York: Lexington Press, 2020): 251-264.

“Falling off the Edge of the Earth” (with Court D. Lewis), in *Conspiracy Theories and Philosophy*, edited by Richard Greene (Open Court, 2020): 59-70.

“‘Black Museum’ and Righting Wrongs: Should We Seek Revenge?” (with Jeffrey L. Bock and Kora Smith), in *Black Mirror and Philosophy*, edited by David Johnson (Wiley Blackwell, 2020): 187-195

“Appeal to Ridicule,” in *Bad Arguments: 100 of the Most Important Fallacies in Western Philosophy*, edited by Robert Arp, Mike Bruce, Steve Barbone (Wiley Blackwell, 2018): 118-120

“Secrets and Lies” (with Jeffrey L. Bock), in *The Americans and Philosophy*, edited by Robert Arp (Chicago: Open Court, 2017): 71-80

“Death Begets Death” (with Jeffrey L. Bock), in *Red Rising and Philosophy*, edited by Court Lewis

(Chicago: Open Court, 2016): 179-188

“Christian Love and Unconditional Forgiveness: A Response to Glen Pettigrove,” in *The Philosophy of Forgiveness, Volume I: Explorations of Forgiveness: Personal, Relational, and Religious*, edited by Court Lewis (Wilmington, Delaware: Vernon Press, 2016): 223-242

“Dauntless Courage” (with Jeffrey L. Bock), in *Divergent and Philosophy*, edited by Court Lewis (Chicago: Open Court, 2016): 141-149

“You Have to Be Good before You Can Be Smart,” (with Jeffrey L. Bock), in *Divergent and Philosophy*, edited by Court Lewis (Chicago: Open Court, 2016): 151-157

“What Possessed Emily Rose?” (with Jeffrey L. Bock), in *The Devil and Philosophy*, edited by Robert Arp (Chicago: Open Court, 2014): 69-77

“I Know You Know I’m Not Telling the Truth,” (with Jeffrey L. Bock), in *Psych and Philosophy*, edited by Robert Arp (Chicago: Open Court, 2013), 145-155

“Do We Need a Roommate Agreement? Pleasure, Selfishness, and Virtue in *The Big Bang Theory*,” (with Jeffrey L. Bock), in *The Big Bang Theory and Philosophy*, edited by Dean Kowalski and Bill Irwin (Hoboken, New Jersey: Wiley Blackwell, 2012), 80-95

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of *Charitable Writing: Cultivating Virtue through Our Words*, by Richard Hughes Gibson and James Edward Beitler III, *International Journal of Christianity & English Language Teaching* 8:6 (2021), 33-36

Review of *The Benedict Option*, by Rod Dreher, *Journal of Biblical and Theological Studies* (2019)

Review of *Anger and Forgiveness*, by Martha Nussbaum, *Philosophy in Review* 37:1 (2017), 25-27

Review of *Forgiveness and Love*, by Glen Pettigrove, *Philosophy in Review* 35:3 (2015), 165-167

Review of *Science and Ethics*, by Bernard E. Rollin, *Between the Species* 18:1 (2015)

Review of *The New Religious Intolerance: Overcoming the Politics of Fear in an Anxious Age*, by Martha Nussbaum, *Philosophy in Review* 34:5 (2014), 262-264

Review of *Christian Ethics: A Brief History* by Michael Banner, *Philosophy in Review* 30:4 (2010), 237-239

Review of *A Short History of Medical Ethics* by Albert Jonsen, *Philosophy in Review* 30:1 (2009), 45-46

Review of *The Secular Conscience: Why Belief Belongs in Public Life*, by Austin Dacey, *Philosophy in Review* 29:2 (2009), 98-99

Review of *Living Philosophy: An Introduction to Moral Thought*, 3rd edition, by Ray Billington, *Essays in Philosophy* 10:1 (2009)

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

“Justified Vindictiveness”

- Concerned Philosophers for Peace, October, 2025

“The Ethics of Presidential Pardons”

- Loyola of New Orleans Philosophy Department, April 3, 2025

“Seneca on Anger, Mercy, and Nonviolence”

- Association of Practical and Professional Ethics, 2025

“A Just God? Mercy as a Divine Perfection”

- National Meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, November 2024

“Nietzsche and Forgiveness”

- Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 2024
- Association of Practical and Professional Ethics, 2024

“Bonhoeffer and Conditional Pacifism”

- Concerned Philosophers for Peace, October 2024

“An Unforgiving God? Retributivism as a Divine Perfection”

- Evangelical Philosophical Society, Southwest Regional 2024
- American Academy of Religion, Southwest Region, March 2024
- National Meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, November 2023

“Should Pharma Companies Waive Their COVID-19 Vaccine Patents? A Legal and Ethical Appraisal” (with Tammy Cowart and Tsurriel Rashi)

- Association of Practical and Professional Ethics, 2024

“Bonhoeffer’s Ethics of Forgiveness” (with Court Lewis)

- Tennessee Philosophical Association, October 2023
- Concerned Philosophers for Peace, October 2023
- Evangelical Philosophical Society Southwest, March 2023
- Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 2023

“Pro-Life Enough? A Review of Child and Family Health Services in Texas” (with Tammy Cowart)

- Association of Practical and Professional Ethics, 2023

“Response to ‘Is Eating Cultured Human Flesh Cannibalism’” by John Quain

- Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 2023

“The Analogy between Divine Forgiveness and Legal Pardon: A Response to William Lane Craig”

- National Meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, November 2022

“Is There a Duty to Get Vaccinated?”

- American Academy of Religion, Southwest Region, 2022
- Association of Practical and Professional Ethics, February 2022
- Annual Meeting of the Concerned Philosophers for Peace, 2021

“Legal and Ethical Issues in COVID-19 Vaccine Patent Waivers” (with Tammy Cowart)

- Association of Practical and Professional Ethics, February 2022
- “The Hope of Forgiveness in a Time of Crisis”
- Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 2021 (with Jason Cook)
 - American Academy of Religion, Southwest Region, 2020 Annual Conference
- Response to “Weight-Cycling, Apprehensive Perception, and the Body You Might Have” by Michael L. J. Greer
- Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 2021
- “The Place of Anger in an Ethics of Love” | Panel on the Ethics of Forgiveness
- Association of Practical and Professional Ethics, February 2020
- “The Philosophy of Forgiveness” | Breakfast with an Author
- Association of Practical and Professional Ethics, February 2020
- “Understanding Joseph Butler’s Sermons on Resentment and Forgiveness”
- Association of Practical and Professional Ethics, February 2020
 - National Meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, November 2019
- “Vaccination Requirements: Parental Rights and Responsibilities” | Panel on the Strengths and Limits of Parental Rights
- Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 2019
- “The End of Religious and Philosophical Exemptions from Measles Vaccination Requirements”
- Clinical Ethics and Conscience Rights, Cedarville University, Ohio, June 2019
 - American Academy of Religion, Southwest Region, 2019 Annual Conference
 - Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, February 2017
 - American Society for Bioethics and Humanities 2015 Annual Meeting
- “Case Study: California’s Elimination of Personal Belief Exemptions from Immunization Requirements”
- Association of Practical and Professional Ethics, February 2019
- “Is There an Obligation to Forgive?” | Author Meets Critics: Court Lewis’ *Repentance and the Right to Forgiveness*
- Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 2019
- “Buddhism, Racism, and Forgiveness”
- American Academy of Religion, Southwest Region, 2018 Annual Conference
 - American Academy of Religion, Western Region, 2017 Annual Conference
 - Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, February 2017
- “Ethical Implications of State Mandated Disposition of Fetal Remains” (with Gloria Duke and Tammy Cowart)
- Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, March 2018
- “Creating a Community of Engagement and Longevity” (with Gloria Duke, Tammy Cowart, and Vandy Dubre)
- Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, March 2018

“Forgiveness and Humility”

- Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, March 2018
- Society of Christian Philosophers, Midwest Region, October 2017
- Center for Christian Thought, Biola University, May 2017

“Creating and Sustaining a Community of Engagement”

- 2018 Ethics Center Directors Summit, Association for Practical and Professional Ethics

“The Ethics of Forgiveness”

- Association of Practical and Professional Ethics, February 2017

“Teaching Leadership: Two Ideas for Sophomore-Level Classes,” (with Ann Beebe)

- Fourth Annual LEAP Texas Forum, February 2017

Response to “Trusting Again” by John McClellan

- Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 2016

“The Principle of Unconditional Forgiveness”

- American Academy of Religion, Western Region, 2016 Annual Conference

“Communicating Tough Love: Christian Love and a Communicative Theory of Punishment,” (with Jeff Cervantez)

- Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 2014
- National Meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, November 2014

Invited Response to “Leibnizian Naturalism and the Miraculous” by Joshua L. Watson

- Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, October 2014

“Lockean Neutrality and the Toleration of African Female Circumcision”

- Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, October 2014

Invited Response to “The Pragmatic Pyramid: John Dewey on Gardening and Food Security”

- Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2014

“Religious Liberty and Snake Handling”

- Mildred Haun Conference, Walters State Community College, February 2014

“Bioethics and Respect for Tradition”

- Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, October 2013

“The Way of Love in World Religions”

- Nammour Symposium, California State University, Sacramento, April 2013

“Ten Ways to Deepen the Conversation: Philosophy and Religion in International Education”

- TnCIS (Tennessee Consortium of International Studies) 6th Annual Conference, October 2012

“Religious Surrogates in the Clinic: A Response to Christopher Meyers”

- Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, March 2012
- Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, November 2011

“Religion in Pediatrics: The Pamela Hamilton Case”

- Glenn Graber Retirement Conference, University of Tennessee, August 2011
- “The Right to be Wrong: Religion, Parenting, and Pediatrics”
- Nammour Symposium, California State University, Sacramento, April 2011
 - Graduate Student Colloquium, Philosophy Department, University of Tennessee, April 2011
- “Religion in the ICU: The Golubchuk Case”
- Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, March 2011
- Invited Response to “Imperiled Newborns and the Limits of Parental Responsibility: Problems with the Child’s Best Interest Standard,” by Trevor Hedberg
- Graduate Student Colloquium, University of Tennessee, February 2011
- “Understanding David Hume’s Argument against Miracles”
- Graduate Student Colloquium, University of Tennessee, January 25th 2011
 - National Meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, November 2010
 - Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, November 2009
- “Making Martyrs of Our Children”
- Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, November 2010
 - Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Tennessee, January 2009
- “Interpreting the Medical Validity of Religious Beliefs,” (with Robert Mundle)
- Sixth Annual International Conference on Clinical Ethics Consultation, May 2010
- Invited Response to “Is Virtue Ethics (Un)Virtuous? The Charge of Egoism” by Jeff Cervantez
- Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, November 2009
- Invited Response to “The Stockholder and the Patient – A Lesson for Business Ethics from Bioethics?” by John Hardwig
- Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, November 2008
- Invited Response to “Abstractions on Leadership: Taoist Thought and the Possibilities of Leading” by Mike Jostedt
- Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, October 2007
- “Medically Valid Religious Beliefs”
- Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, October 2007
- “Environmental Virtue Ethics and the Good to Ought Problem”
- Eastern Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, April 2007
- “Intellectual Virtue and Knowledge”
- Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, November 2006
- Invited Response to “Does the Individual Survive Death? Buddhist Insights Concerning Personal Identity, Personal Continuity, and Rebirth” by Kenneth Faber
- Tennessee Philosophical Association, Vanderbilt University, November 2006
- “God, Time, and Prayer”
- Far West Region Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, April 2005

“Discussing Bioethical Issues in the ESL Classroom,”

- CATESOL (California Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) Statewide Conference, March 2005

"Aretaic Knowledge: A Defense of Zagzebski's Theory of Knowledge"

- Western Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, February 2004

TEACHING: THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

A semester-by-semester list of courses is available on my website.

PHIL 1301 Introduction to Philosophy

- A survey of the major areas of traditional and modern philosophy: philosophies of knowledge, ethics, logic, aesthetics, and metaphysics

PHIL 1304 Introduction to World Religions

- A comparative and philosophical introduction to the religions of the world including but not limited to Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism

PHIL 2303 Introduction to Logic

- An introduction to informal, formal, and inductive logic including informal fallacies, propositional logic, and predicate logic

PHIL 2306 Introduction to Ethics

- A study of moral theory and ethical decision-making including a critical analysis of practical and professional cases

PHIL 2331 Foundations of Leadership

- A survey of approaches to leadership in both Western and Eastern philosophy, including but not limited to the ideas of Lao Tzu, Plato, and Locke

PHIL 3300 Justice and Mercy (Approaches to Philosophy)

- An exploration of the questions surrounding the tension between the concepts of justice and mercy, including but not limited to the following: (1) whether justice should be understood as retribution, (2) whether showing mercy is morally permissible, and (3) whether there are limits to forgiveness

PHIL 3301 Ancient Philosophy

- This course covers Western philosophy from the pre-Socratics through Plato and Aristotle and the Eastern traditions of India and China.

PHIL 3304 Existentialism

- A study of humanity's place in the world as understood by philosophers like Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Buber, Sartre, and Camus

RELI 3330 Introduction to Christianity

- An introductory course that studies the origins, content, and meaning of Christianity by looking at the New Testament (both the Gospels and letters of Paul), the people and ideas that led to the major tenets of Christianity, and secondary texts to explain their meaning.

PHIL 3331 Modern Philosophy

- A study of the main issues and movements in philosophy from the seventeenth century through the twentieth century

RELI 3343 Introduction to Buddhism

- This course introduces students to the essential tenets of Buddhism in its three most popular forms: Theravada, Mahayana, and the Vajrayana and in what ways these forms of Buddhism transformed the cultures in which they arose.

PHIL 3344 Ethical Leadership

- A study of moral philosophy as it applies to leadership and issues in the workplace

PHIL 4301 Bioethics

- A philosophical exploration of ethical issues that arise in medicine and other health-related fields

PHIL 4330 Comparative Religious Philosophy

- A study of traditional categories of the philosophy of religion with reference to such religions as Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity

ENGL 5310 Eighteenth-Century Prose and Philosophical Writings (Masters of English Literature)

- A study of English philosophical writings in the eighteenth century including works by Butler, Hume, and Bentham

ENGL 5310 Locke and Hume (Masters of English Literature)

- A study of the philosophical writings of John Locke and David Hume

TEACHING: WALTERS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PHIL 1030 Human Nature and Life

- A study of philosophical perspectives of human nature and the meaning of life

PHIL 1060 Ancient Philosophy & Religion (Readings in Philosophy)

- An exploration of the religious beliefs and practices of ancient Greece including temple rituals, deities, and myths, and a study of the philosophical ideas of Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, and others.

PHIL 1600 Religion & Public Life (Issues in Philosophy)

- An exploration of religion and society, in particular the conflicts that arise when matters of conscience enter the public square

PHIL 1600 Philosophy of Religion (Issues in Philosophy)

- An exploration of fundamental questions in religion such as whether God exists, whether faith and reason are compatible, and whether miracles are possible

PHIL 2020 Self and Values

- A study of the concepts of “self” and “value”

PHIL 2210 Religions and Cultures

- A comparative, historical, and philosophical introduction to the world’s religions

PHIL 2400 Introduction to Ethics

- An exploration of moral thought such as the ethical theories of Aristotle, Kant, and Mill; also includes discussion of contemporary moral problems such as reproductive technologies, euthanasia, capital punishment, war, animals, and the environment

PHIL 2440 Bioethics

- An introduction to ethical issues that arise in such areas as medicine, nursing, allied health, and public health

PHIL 2640 Science and the Modern World

- A study of the nature of science and the relationship between science and other areas of modern life including religion, ethics, and politics

OTHER COURSES TAUGHT

Exceptional Leadership in Healthcare (Claremont Lincoln University)

Contemporary Moral Issues (University of Tennessee)

Human Condition: Values & Reality (University of Tennessee)

Business Ethics (taught discussion sections at the University of Tennessee as GTA)

Bioethics (taught discussion sections at the University of Tennessee as GTA)

Intercultural Communication and Language Teaching (Azusa Pacific University)

Critical Perspectives of Christianity and English Language Teaching (Azusa Pacific University)

English as a Second Language (various courses at several institutions – see below)

College Learning Skills (Biola University)