

Curriculum Vitae of Chris Rahlwes

chris.rahlwes@gmail.com

Florida Atlantic University

Department of Philosophy

AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

Asian Philosophy (Jainism, Buddhism, Daoism) with thematic foci in Logic, Philosophy of Language, and Epistemology; Intercultural Philosophy

AREA OF COMPETENCE

Ethics (including Applied Ethics), Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Religion

CAREER HISTORY

Bhagavan Sambhavnath Professor in Jain Studies, Assistant Professor in Philosophy Florida Atlantic University	Fall 2026
Lecturer in Philosophy Smith College	2024–2026
Visiting Assistant Professor in East Indian Philosophy and Applied Ethics University of Connecticut	2023–2024
Visiting Lecturer in Philosophy Smith College	2023
Graduate Assistant (Instructor of Record) University of Connecticut	2019–2023

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy , University of Connecticut Dissertation: “Denial, Negation, and Classical Asian Logics”	2023
M.A. Philosophy , University of Connecticut Graduate Certificates: Logic, Literary Translation	2020
M.A. Philosophy , University of New Mexico Thesis: “Yoga Sūtra 1.17 as an Experiential Claim”	2015
B.S. Political Science , Sam Houston State University	2010

RESEARCH

Peer-Reviewed Articles

“In Defense of Nonpropositional Truth” (co-authored with M. Dickson), <i>The Philosophical Forum</i> . 56: 13-23.	2025
“Silence and Contradiction in the Jaina <i>Saptabhaṅgī</i> ,” <i>Journal of Indian Philosophy</i> . 51 (4): 473–513.	2023
“Nāgārjuna, Madhyamaka, and Truth,” <i>Asian Journal of Philosophy</i> . 2 (31).	2023
“Nāgārjuna’s Negation,” <i>Journal of Indian Philosophy</i> . 50 (2): 307–344.	2022

Book Reviews

- “Shuchen Xiang. *Chinese Cosmopolitanism: The History and Philosophy of an Idea*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2023,” [Philosophy and Global Affairs. 5\(1\): 255-258.](#) 2025
- “Freedom and Easy Wandering: Review of Kim-chong Chong’s *Dao Companion to the Philosophy of the Zhuangzi*,” [Comparative Political Philosophy. 3\(2\): 227–234.](#) 2023
- “Book Review of *Indian and Intercultural Philosophy: Personhood, Consciousness, and Causality* by Douglas L. Berger,” [The Indian Philosophy Blog.](#) 2022

Literary Publications [Translations] (Non-peer-reviewed)

- “From the Mūlamadhyamakakārikā” and “Translator’s note.” [The Hudson Review. Volume 74, Issue 1.](#) 2021
- “Senses,” “Fire,” and “Suffering” by Nāgārjuna. [World Poetry Review. Issue 6.](#) 2021

Academic Guides (Non-peer-reviewed)

- A Guide for Incorporating Jainism into the Philosophy Curriculum.* 2022
College of Liberal Arts and Philosophy Department, University of Connecticut

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks and Lectures

- “Asian Philosophy of Mind and Personal Identity”
Invited Lecture for Dr. Dorit Bar-On’s *Problems of Philosophy* Honors Course Feb 2026
- “Nonviolent Perspectives: Does the Jain Account of Nonviolence Entail Pluralism?”
Invited Talk for the Community Forum for Philosophy and Religion April 2025
(Victor Valley College and Cerritos College)
- “Buddhist Ideas and Practices of Emptiness”
Invited Lecture for Dr. Andy Rotman’s *The Study of Buddhism* Course Oct 2025
(Smith College)
- “Truth in Nāgārjuna’s *Mūlamadhyamakakārikā*”
Invited Talk for the Virtual International Consortium of Truth Research (VICTR) Jun 2022
- “Translating Sanskrit, Buddhism, and the Limits of Language”
Invited Lecture for Dr. Peter Constantine’s *Literary Translation: Theory* Course Feb 2022
(University of Connecticut)

Conference, Symposium, and Workshop Presentations

- “The Limits of *Anekāntavāda*”
Eastern APA Conference Jan 2026
FAU Jain Philosophy Conference Oct 2025
- “Zhuangzi’s Drawing Distinctions”
SACP Conference, Leiden University July 2025
Midwest Conference on Chinese Thought April 2025
- “Buddhist Coherentism”
Taking Buddhist Philosophy Seriously Symposium (Smith College) March 2025

“Elucidating Indian Philosophy through Jain Studies” Eastern APA Conference	Jan 2025
“Recovering from the Hellish Zone of Non-Being: Fanonian and Buddhist Perspectives” East-West Philosophers’ Conference (University of Hawai’i at Mānoa)	May 2024
“Quantifying the Buddha’s Silence” Pacific APA Conference, SACP Panel	March 2024
“Zhuangzian and Jaina Perspectivism” Eastern APA Conference, ISCP Panel	Jan 2024
“Acquisition of Negations” ECOM Spotlight Series (University of Connecticut)	Nov 2023
“A Tale of Two Logics: Did Priest Get Lost in India?” Themes From Priest Workshop (University of Connecticut)	Oct 2023
“Grounding ‘Truth’ in Early Buddhism” Perspectives about Truth 2	Sept 2023
“Denial and (In)consistency in Apophatic Traditions” 4 th World Congress on Logic and Religion	Sept 2023
“Truth and Negation in Nāgārjuna’s <i>Catuṣkoṭī</i> ” Truth Without Borders Workshop (University of Waikato)	Dec 2021

TEACHING

Courses Taught (Instructor of Record)

Smith College

Global Existentialism (FYS 156)

Plausible and Implausible Reasoning: What Happened? What Will Happen Next? (PHI 101)

Valid and Invalid Reasoning: What Follows from What? (PHI 102)

Modal Logic (PHI 203)

Incompleteness and Inconsistency: Philosophy of Logic (PHI 220)

Ethics (PHI 222)

Philosophy of Mind: Consciousness and Its Abnormal States (PHI 334as)

University of Connecticut (Storrs, Hartford, and Waterbury)

Problems of Philosophy (PHIL 1101)

Philosophy and Logic (PHIL 1102)

Philosophical Classics (PHIL 1103)

Philosophy and Social Ethics (PHIL 1104)

Philosophy and Religion (PHIL 1104)

Non-Western and Comparative Philosophy (PHIL 1106)

Philosophy and Gender (PHIL 1107)

Environmental Philosophy (PHIL 1108E)

Environmental Ethics (PHIL 3216E)

Philosophy of Mind (PHIL 3250)

Asian Philosophy (PHIL 3263)

Classical Chinese Philosophy and Culture (PHIL 3264)

Special Studies/Independent Studies Taught

Jain Philosophy & Practice (PHI 400), Smith College

Teaching Recognition

Teaching Excellence Recognition Letter. Office of the Provost, University of Connecticut. 2019 & 2020

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Service to the Discipline

Referee: *Philosophy East and West, Journal of Philosophy and Global Affairs, Journal of the American Philosophy Association, The Australasian Journal of Logic, Asian Philosophy, Journal of World Philosophies*; Routledge

Service to the Department

Philosophy Department, University of Connecticut

Advisor for Asian Philosophy	2023–2024
Climate Committee Member	2020–2022
Head Mentor, Teacher Training and Mentoring Program	2019–2021

Translation Studies Department, University of Connecticut

Mentor, Mentoring into Print	2021
------------------------------	------

Professional Memberships

American Philosophical Association
Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy
International Association of Buddhist Studies
American Association of Philosophy Teachers

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

CFCD Student Research Assistance Grant (internal Smith grant)	2025 & 2026
Ruth Garrett Millikan Fellowship	2022
Summer Grant Work for Incorporating Jaina Philosophy into the Curriculum	2022
Pushcart Prize Nomination	2020

LANGUAGES

Research Languages: Sanskrit, Prakrit, Pāli, Classical Tibetan, Classical Chinese, Classical Greek

Additional: German (intermediate), English (native)

REFERENCES

Jay L. Garfield
Doris Silbert Emeritus Professor in the Humanities,
Professor Emeritus of Philosophy
Smith College
jgarfield@smith.edu

Maria Heim
George Lyman Crosby 1896 & Stanley Warfield Crosby Professor in Religion
Smith College
mrheim@amherst.edu

Michael P. Lynch
Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor in Philosophy
Provost Professor of the Humanities
University of Connecticut
mplynch@uconn.edu

Lewis Gordon
Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor in Philosophy
Department Head
University of Connecticut
lewis.gordon@uconn.edu