Enrique M. Castillo

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EDUCATION

M.A. in Applied Philosophy and Ethics, 2024
Texas State University, San Marcos, TX

B.A. in European Studies, 2020
University of Texas, Austin Texas
Undergraduate Thesis: “Shadows from the Past: Foreigners in the GDR and the Rise of the AfD”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX 2024 - Present

- Taught each semester four sections (two in-person and two online asynchronous), of PHIL 1320: Ethics and Society a writing intensive course in which students explored global perspectives on ethics and is role in society, normative theories of ethics, and applied ethics.
- Assist students through regular weekly in-person office hours and through Zoom.

Graduate Instructional Assistant (GIA), Texas State University, San Marcos, TX 2022 - 2024

“Ethics and Society” – Dr. Matt Bower (Spring 2024)

- Engaged with student groups during in-class discussions to encourage participation, especially by identifying and talking with students who were quiet and/or not engaged with the class. Utilized non-controversial or everyday examples to incite conversation and used their insights to build to the more complex or controversial examples.
- Taught his courses on Hobbes’ social contract theory and Zhuangzi’s detachment using provided PowerPoints and handouts when he had to travel. Often used the chalkboard board to write out arguments, note key ideas, and draw diagrams for student reference and comprehension.
- Had weekly office hours to support and assist students for both in-person and online asynchronous students. Graded assignments and provided feedback highlighting strengths and areas of growth.

“Ethics and Society” – Dr. Anthony Cross (Fall 2023)

- Taught two lab sections following and adapting the professor’s outline as needed. Focused on the three main ethical theories – deontology, utilitarianism, and virtue ethics – and their applications in different contemporary ethical dilemmas. Often used the whiteboard to write out arguments, note key ideas, and draw diagrams for student reference and comprehension.

- Proctored the mid-term and final exams with other graduate assistants. Administered and proctored weekly quizzes.
- Had weekly office hours to provide additional support and assistance for students. Graded assignments and provided feedback highlighting strengths and areas of growth.

"Philosophy and Critical Thinking" – Dr. Holly Lewis (Fall 2022 – Spring 2023)

- Had weekly online office hours for student support and assistance. Graded assignments and provided feedback highlighting strengths and areas of growth.
- Took notes on materials and discussed them with a fellow GIA to support each other and ensure we were on the same page when grading.

High School Teacher, KIPP: University Prep High School, San Antonio, TX 2021

- Quickly adapted to the 12th Grade International Baccalaureate (I.B.) English curriculum during a time of need.
- Provided instruction to students, assisted them with their classwork, addressed inquiries both in-person and online. Utilized scaffolding questions to gauge comprehension and build up to questions addressing themes of the text.
- Designed lesson plans and class materials with my partner teacher.
- Graded assignments and provided feedback highlighting strengths and areas of growth. Supported an English learner with assignments helping them to pass all classes.

Associate Teacher, KIPP: University Prep High School, San Antonio, TX 2020

- Supported 9th and 10th Grade English Composition teachers with helping and monitoring students in-person and online.
- Adapted to other school needs as required, such as covering for absent teachers

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Department of Philosophy, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX 2023

Graduate Research Assistant: Conducted basic data entry for over 1000 article regarding the ethical treatment of insects in scientific studies for Dr. Bob Fisher from June to August in-between semesters.

PRESENTATIONS

"Non-Western Conceptions of (Animal) Nature" Presented at the Dialogue Series, Texas State University, April 3, 2026

- Aimed for a general audience, I introduced historical and contemporary understanding and views of Japanese conception of (animal) nature to challenge oversimplified and romanticized views of East Asian philosophy, culture, and environmental practices. I argued that modernity, its structures, and its effects pose challenges to radical fundamental environmental change.

"An Analysis of Critique and Power in Rosa Luxemburg's *Reform or Revolution?*" Presented at the 27th Annual Philosophy Student Symposium, Texas State University, March 23, 2024

- Presented to faculty and students, I discussed a paper I wrote arguing that Rosa Luxemburg's pamphlet can be brought into contemporary discussions of political philosophy through the conceptual framework of constituted and constituent power.

"Religion and the Radical Left." Presented at the Phi Sigma Tau's *Tau Talks*, Texas State University, February 26, 2024.

- Aimed for a general audience, I discussed the history of the radical left and the Catholic Church to tease apart negative assumptions of the relation between the two and argued that religion and the radical left are not necessarily oppositional and encouraged further research.

"Human Nature and Politics." Presented at the Phi Sigma Tau's *Tau Talks*, Texas State University, October 23, 2023.

- Aimed for a general audience, I discussed how philosophers such as Aristotle viewed the relation between human nature and politics for a general audience and argued that to address any issues that relate to human nature and politics, we must address complex systemic relations.

"The VW Beatle & Triumph of the Will: The Role of Morality in the Evaluation of Fascist Art." Presented at the 26th Annual Philosophy Student Symposium, Texas State University, March 24, 2023.

- Presented to faculty and students, I discussed a paper I wrote that aimed to determine how one could determine the moral value or lack thereof of fascist art and its implications.

"World on A Wire: Toward an Understanding Artificial Intelligence and Reality." Presented at the Phi Sigma Tau's *Tau Talks*, Texas State University, March 6, 2023.

- Using Seo-Young Chu's theory of science fictional theory of representation, I explained how the sci-fi movies Star Wars, Tron, and World on a Wire are visual means to explain how we understand artificial intelligence, artificial reality, and questions about how we understand them.

"Is Marxism in Latin America a Distortion?" Presented at the Marxism and Philosophy Association panel at the American Philosophical Association Central Division Annual Meeting, February 24, 2023.

- I presented a paper aiming to refute the claim that Marxism in Latin America was necessarily a distortion and to argue instead for an evolutionary view of its development.

LANGUAGES

Native speaker in English and Spanish
Basic speaking and reading competence in German.

COMPUTER/TECHNICAL SKILLS

PC Programs
Adobe Creative Cloud, professionally certified in Photoshop
Microsoft Office
Google Suite

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Phi Sigma Tau, Philosophy Honors Society
President (Fall 2023 – Spring 2024), Member (Fall 2022 – Present)

- Presented on various philosophical topics for a general audience.
- Volunteered as a reader and commenter for the Annual Philosophy Student Symposium
- Designed TV graphics to promote the honor society and its journal, *Dialogue*

Minorities and Philosophy (MAP)
Chair (Fall 2023 – Spring 2024), Member (Fall 2022 – Present)

- Helped build up the recently founded organization by creating a Canvas page with a dedicated Zoom meeting schedule to ease communications and a resource page for students.
- Organized regular in-person/Zoom meetings.
- Organized, hosted, and volunteered for MAP events including tabling, film showings, and socials. Coordinated and cooperated with other organizations for events. Stayed during events to engage in or lead discussions and to ensure that facilities were cleaned once the events concluded.
- Designed a logo and other graphics, such as flyers, to promote the organization and its events.

Delta Phi Alpha – German Honors Society
Member (Spring 2023 – Present)

- Encouraged inter-departmental collaboration by sharing relevant Dialogue series events
- Volunteered for the Texas State German Competition, administering and proctoring German reading comprehension exams with another volunteer.

Lunch with Program Review Team
Participant (Feb. 2024)

- Discussed student experiences in the Philosophy Department at Texas State University
- Shared my thoughts on how to improve the program to encourage student professional development and academic flourishing.

TRAVEL/CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

Germany – Study Abroad (2018)

- Studied abroad in Germany for two months in the summer to continue my German language education and take courses in German culture at the Universität Wüzburg. Went on cultural excursions in Bamberg, Rothenberg, Nuremburg, Berlin, and Potsdam.