

**W. S. K. (Scott) Cameron**  
Professor of Philosophy  
Loyola Marymount University  
One LMU Dr., Suite 3600,  
Los Angeles, CA 310 338 2858  
[scameron@lmu.edu](mailto:scameron@lmu.edu)

## **Education**

### **1989-1996: Fordham University, Bronx, New York**

Dissertation Title: *Tradition and Transcendence in the Critical Theories of Gadamer and Habermas*

Advisor: M. Westphal

Ph.D. in Philosophy awarded May 1996

### **1986-88: Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario**

MA Thesis: *Liberalism and Hermeneutics: Tension in Law's Empire*

Advisor: J. E. Bickenbach

MA in Philosophy awarded October 1988

### **1980-84: Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario**

BA (Hons.) First Class in Philosophy awarded October 1984

## **Areas of Specialization:**

Contemporary Continental Philosophy, especially Critical Theory and Hermeneutics; and Environmental Philosophy

## **Areas of Competence:**

Feminist Theory, Ancient Greek Philosophy, Philosophy of Law

## **Awards and Distinctions:**

### **At Fordham:**

Presidential Scholarship	1989-92
Adjunct Instructorship	1991-92
Teaching Fellowship	1990-91
Graduate Assistantship	1989-90

### **At Queen's:**

Adjunct Instructorship	1988
Graduate Assistantship	1987
Halkett Fellowship	1986-87
Queen's Graduate Award	1986-87
Queen's Honor Matriculation Award	1980-82

Member by Invitation in the U.S. National Honor Society Phi Kappa Phi

## **Publications and Professional Presentations**

### **Published Papers:**

“Heidegger: On Individual and Collective Responsibility,” in *Engaging Nature: Environmentalism and the Political Theory Canon*, ed. Peter Cannavò and Joe Lane (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2014): 239-52.

“Conceiving the Earth Itself as Our Garden,” in Martin Drenthen and Josef Keleurtz, eds., *Old and New World Perspectives on Environmental Philosophy: Transatlantic Conversations* (Cham, Switzerland: Springer, 2014): 53-71.

“Must Environmental Philosophy Relinquish the Concept of Nature? A Hermeneutic Reply to Steven Vogel,” in *Interpreting Nature: The Emerging Field of Environmental Hermeneutics*, ed. F. Clingerman, M. Drenthen, B. Treanor, and D. Utsler (NY: Fordham University Press, 2014) 102-120.

“Can Cities be both Natural and Successful? Reflections Grounding Two Apparently Oxymoronic Aspirations.” In Ingrid Leman Stefanovic and Stephen Bede Scharper, eds., *The Natural City: Re-Envisioning the Built Environment* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2011) 36-49.

“Socrates Outside Athens: Plato, the *Phaedrus*, and the Possibility of “Dialogue” with Nature.” In *Phenomenology 2010, Volume 5: Selected Essays from North America, Part 2*. Ed. Lester Embree, Michael Barber, and Thomas J. Nenon (Bucharest: Zeta Books, 2010) 40-65.

“Tapping Habermas’s Discourse Theory for Environmental Ethics,” *Environmental Ethics* 31 (Winter, 2009): 339-57.

“Wilderness and the City: Not such a Long Drive After All,” *Environmental Philosophy* 3 (2006): 28-33.

“The Genesis and Justification of Feminist Standpoint Theory in Hegel and Lukács,” *Dialogue and Universalism* 15 (2005): 19-41.

“Can we Afford the Tough Love of Liberals? A Deflationary Look at Garrett Hardin’s Lifeboat Ethic.” *Environmental Philosophy* 2 (2005): 30-43.

“Seeing through Technology: Martin Heidegger, Hans-Georg Gadamer, and the role of Hermeneutic Experience.” In Andrzej Wierciński (ed.), *Between Description and Interpretation: The Hermeneutic Turn in Phenomenology* (Toronto: The Hermeneutic Press, 2005) 349-59.

“Heidegger’s Concept of the Environment in *Being and Time*.” *Environmental Philosophy* 1 (2004): 34-46.

“Appropriating Heidegger,” *Philosophical Inquiry* 25 (2003): 255-58.

“On Soda Cans in Sacred Waterholes: A Response to Kenneth Liberman.” In *Call to Earth: Journal of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy* 3 (2002) 16-17.

“Fallibilism, Rational Reconstruction, and the Distinction between Moral Theory and Ethical Life,” in *Perspectives on Habermas*, ed. Lewis H. Hahn (Chicago: Open Court, 2000) 175-94.

“Can its Commitment to Justice Distinguish a Catholic Education?” In M. K. McCullough (ed.), *The Just One Justices: The Role of Justice at the Heart of Catholic Higher Education*, 163-75. Scranton, PA: University of Scranton Press, 2000.

“Liberalism, Feminism, and the Promise of Lovibond’s Moral Realism,” *Philosophy Today* 42 (1998): 119-127.

“On Communicative Actors Talking Past One Another: The Gadamer-Habermas Debate,” *Philosophy Today* 40 (1996): 160-168.

“[Writing] about Writing about Kierkegaard.” *Philosophy Today* 39 (1995): 56-66.

### **Published Reviews:**

Mick Smith, *Against Ecological Sovereignty: Ethics, Biopolitics, and Saving the Natural World*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2011, in *Environmental Ethics* 36 (2014): 239-42.

*Nature by Design: People, Natural Process, and Ecological Restoration*, by Eric Higgs (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2003) in *Environmental Philosophy* 1 (2004): 83-85.

*Ethical Hermeneutics: Rationality in Enrique Dussel’s Philosophy of Liberation*, by Michael Barber (New York: Fordham University Press), in *The Journal of Hispanic/Latino Theology*, <http://www.latinotheology.org/node/65>.

*Women and the Good War: Conscientious Objection and Gender on the American Home Front 1941-1947*, by Rachel Waltner Goossen (Chapel Hill: Univ. of North Carolina Press, 1997) in *New Oxford Review* 66 (1999) 44.

*Why We Live in Community 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.*, by Eberhard Arnold with two interpretive talks by Thomas Merton (Farmington, PA: Plough, [1976] 1995), and *Discipleship*, by J. Heinrich Arnold (Farmington, PA: Plough, 1994), in *New Oxford Review* 64 (1997): 29-30.

### **Forthcoming Papers:**

“On Verbs, Sets, and the Identity of Catholic Universities.” In Loretta Morris (ed.), *Tradition, Transformation, Transcendence*, forthcoming from the University of Scranton Press.

### **Articles in Progress:**

“Can Discourse Require Adopting the Other’s Point of View? A Hermeneutical Contribution.”

“Can We Even *Speak* of Peace? On Violence in Language.”

“A Fugue on Two Martins: Heidegger, King, and the Violence of Interpretation.”

### **Book in Progress:**

Aside from revising a few recent professional presentations for publication, my main focus is to finish a book manuscript tentatively called *Green Hermeneutics: Interpreting the Natural World*.

### **Professional Presentations:**

“On the Necessity of Recourse to Human Experience and Metaphors,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Association of Environmental Philosophy in New Orleans, LA, Oct. 2014.

“Eric Katz and the Case against Ecological Restoration,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Association of Environmental Philosophy in Eugene, OR, Oct. 2013.

“Holding Myself Responsible: on the Social Significance of Individual Action,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Association of Environmental Philosophy in Rochester, NY, Oct. 2012.

“The Earth is a Garden; Get Used to It!” Presented to the annual joint meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy and the International Society for Environmental Ethics in Nijmegen, the Netherlands, June 2011.

“Socrates outside Athens: The *Phaedrus* and the Possibility of Dialogue not only under, but with Trees.” Presented at Thinking Through Nature: Philosophy for an Endangered World in Eugene, OR, June 2008

“The De-naturing Effects of Modernism’s Methodological Naturalism.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Society for Environmental Philosophy in Chicago, Nov. 2007.

“What’s in a Name? Anthropocentrist, Biocentrist, and Hermeneutic Appropriations of the Natural World.” Presented to the Society for Continental Philosophy and Theology at its meeting in conjunction with the American Catholic Philosophical Association in Milwaukee, Nov. 2007.

“What *is* the Problem with Plastic Trees?” Presented at the Society for Ecological Restoration’s Biannual International Meeting in ” in San Jose, Aug. 2007.

“Ecological Restoration as the Art of Playing with Nature.” Presented at the Annual Joint Meeting of the International Society for Environmental Ethics and the International Society for Environmental Ethics in Boulder, CO, May 2007.

“Can Cities be both Natural and Successful?” Presented at the Second Natural City Symposium in Toronto, June 2006.

“Heidegger on the Scientific Appreciation of Nature.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy in Toronto, May 2006.

“Heidegger and the Paradox of Ecological Restoration.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Association of Environmental Philosophy in Salt Lake, Oct. 2005.

“Restoring Nature through Technology?” Presented at the Society for Ecological Restoration’s Annual International Meeting in Zaragoza, Spain, October 2005.

“Terrorism, ‘Just War,’ and the Problem of Collective Responsibility.” Presented at the Political Theory Conference “Terrorism, Democracy, and Empire,” held at Ottawa, Sept. 2005.

“Seeing Through Technology.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association in London, ON, May 2005.

“The Violence of Words.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy in London, ON, May 2005.

“How shall we remember the Birkenhead? Selfishness, Self-sacrifice, and the Lifeboat Ethic.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Association of Environmental Philosophy in Memphis, Oct. 2004.

“Reason, Religion, and the Impulse to Destroy: Heidegger and King on the Moral Cost of Resistance.” Presented to the Society for Continental Philosophy and Theology in Memphis, Oct. 2004.

“Playing at the Edge between Nature and Culture: Gadamer and the Possibility of Aesthetically Sensitive Ecological Restoration.” Presented at the Society for Ecological Restoration’s Annual International Meeting in Victoria, Canada, August 2004.

“Heidegger and the Moral Legitimacy of a Scientific Vocation.” Presented at the 6<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International Christian Scholar’s Association at Malibu, July 2004.

“The Challenge of the Natural City: Cultivating Nature; Naturalizing Culture.” Presented at the Natural City Symposium in Toronto, June 2004.

“Hermeneutics and the Foundations of Environmental Thought.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association in Winnipeg, May 2004.

“Benhabib, Young, and Gadamer on Symmetry Conditions in Discourse.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association in Winnipeg, May 2004.

“Gadamerian Insights on the Wild.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Hermeneutics and Post-Modern Thought in Halifax, May 2004

“Heidegger and the Problem of Interpreting the Environment as a Field of Assignment-Relations.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Association of Environmental Philosophy in Boston, Nov. 2003.

“A Discourse-Theoretic Approach to Environmental Policy.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association in Halifax, June 2003.

“Gadamer on the Possibility of Having ‘New’ Experiences.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Hermeneutics and Post-Modern Thought in Halifax, May 2003.

“Does Philosophical Hermeneutics Surreptitiously Appeal to Immediate Presence?” Presented on the main program of the American Philosophical Association’s Eastern Division Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Dec. 2002.

“Anthropocentrism, Biocentrism, and Gadamer’s Hermeneutics.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy in Chicago, Oct. 2002.

“Hans-Georg Gadamer on the Dynamics of Reciprocal Recognition in Discourse.” Presented on the main program of the American Philosophical Association’s Eastern Division Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Dec. 2001.

“Habermas’s Discourse Ethics: An Untapped Potential?” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy in Baltimore, Oct. 2001.

“Hegel, Lukács, and the Problem of the Privileged Standpoint,” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Society for Universal Dialogue, in Krakow, Poland, Jul. 2001.

“Some Thoughts on the Possibility of Good Faith,” a commentary on three papers presented to the Sartre Society Annual Meeting, Feb. 1999.

“Liberalism, Feminism, and the Promise of Lovibond’s Moral Realism,” at the Annual Meeting of SPEP, the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, held at the University of Colorado at Denver, Oct. 1998.

“Dworkin and the Dynamics of Statutory Interpretation,” a response to Patrick Brennan’s presentation at the Lonergan Society Meeting held in conjunction with the American Catholic Philosophical Association’s Annual Meeting, Mar. 1998.

“[Writing] about Writing about Kierkegaard.” Soren Kierkegaard Society, Los Angeles, Mar. 1994.

“On Communicative Actors Talking Past One Another: The Gadamer-Habermas Debate.” Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy. New Orleans, Oct. 1993.

“Insightful but Ultimately Absurd? Umberto Eco on Aquinas’s Aesthetics.” SSIPS/SAGP Annual Meeting. SUNY Binghamton, Oct. 1993.

### **Professional Service:**

Co-Editor, *Environmental Philosophy*, Oct. 2005 to the present.

Book Review Editor, *Environmental Philosophy* Oct. 2003 to May, 2007.

Co-President, International Association for Environmental Philosophy, Oct. 2005 to Oct 2009

Secretary, International Association for Environmental Philosophy, Oct. 2003-Oct. 2005.

Book manuscript reviewer for SUNY Press, the University of Toronto Press, and Indiana University Press.

Paper reviewer for the journals *Environmental Philosophy* and *Worldviews: Environment, Culture, Religion, Environment Space and Place*, and for the Contemporary European Philosophy Section of the Canadian Philosophical Association.

### **Academic Awards and Grants:**

Loyola Marymount University. Faculty Summer Research Grant (\$5000), 2015.

Loyola Marymount University. New Course Development Grant (\$2000), 2014.

Loyola Marymount University. Faculty Summer Research Grant (\$5000), 2013.

Loyola Marymount University. Transformation of the Major Grant (\$5000), 2011.

Loyola Marymount University. Faculty Summer Research Grant (\$5000), 2010.

Loyola Marymount University. Catholic Studies Curriculum Development Grant (\$5000), 2009.

Loyola Marymount University. Faculty Summer Research Grant (\$4000), 2008.

Loyola Marymount University. Faith and Justice Research Grant (\$4000), 2007.

Loyola Marymount University. Justice and the Common Good Curriculum Development Grant (\$5000), 2006

Loyola Marymount University. Codirector, Bellarmine Forum (\$5000), 2004-6.

Loyola Marymount University. Teaching Development Grant (\$4000), 2005

Loyola Marymount University. Faculty Summer Research Grant (\$4000), 2005.

Taylor Chair in the Department of Philosophy (\$5000 stipend, \$5000 for program development, and a course remission for each semester), 2004-2006.

Loyola Marymount University. Faith and Justice Summer Research Grant (\$4000), Summer 2004.

Loyola Marymount University. Faculty Summer Research Grant (\$4000), 2003.

Loyola Marymount University. Faith and Justice Curriculum Development Grant (\$4000), 2003.

Loyola Marymount University. Faculty Summer Research Grant (\$3500), 2001.

Loyola Marymount University. Teaching Development Grant (\$3500), 2001.

Loyola Marymount University. Faculty Summer Research Grant (\$3500), 1999.

Loyola Marymount University. Faculty Summer Research Grant (\$3000), 1997.

Loyola Marymount University. Faculty Summer Research Grant (\$3000), 1996.



## **Teaching and Related Experience**

### **1995-Present: Assistant, Associate, and then Full Professor, Loyola Marymount University**

While holding this position I have taught upper year “Major Thinkers” courses on Kant, Hegel, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Gadamer and Habermas, as well as broader historical and thematic classes on Ancient Philosophy, Feminist Theory, Critical Theory, Hermeneutics, Environmental Philosophy, the Philosophy of Education, Philosophy of Law, and Ethics and the Arts. I have led interdisciplinary classes in the Honors Program and in the First Year Institute (a retention program for at-risk students), as well as graduate seminars on Heidegger, Nietzsche, Hermeneutics, and Environmental Philosophy for our MA program. Finally, most semesters I teach one of the two Loyola Marymount University core courses: Philosophy of Human Nature, or Ethics. Tenure and promotion to Associate Professor were awarded during the Spring 2000 deliberations of the Rank and Tenure Committee; I was promoted to Full Professor in Spring 2009.

### **1994-1995: Visiting Assistant Professor, Loyola Marymount University**

This was a one-year, full-time, non-tenure-track position.

### **1990-1992: Teaching Fellow and Adjunct Instructor, Fordham University**

During the first year, I taught two sections of the core sophomore course “Modern Epistemology”; during the second year, I taught four sections of the core introductory course “Philosophy of Human Nature.”

### **Spring, 1988: Adjunct Instructor, Queen’s University**

As my first course, I’m sure “Critical Thinking” would have been an exciting opportunity even if I hadn’t been teaching a mixed-gender class of medium- and maximum-security inmates at Collin’s Bay Federal Penitentiary.

### **Fall, 1987: Tutor in Logic, Queen’s University**

I graded and tutored one semester of “Elementary Logic,” a second year course in traditional and symbolic logic.

### **Departmental and University Service:**

Before leaving Los Angeles at the end of 1999 to participate in the Bonn Program and to pursue sabbatical research in Canada, my primary avenue of service was as faculty advisor to the Philosophy Society. In that role I organized and administered a number of activities including dinners for faculty and students, film nights, lecture presentations, Phi Sigma Tau Initiations, the Philosophy Essay Contest, and my favorite, the annual Faculty-Student Bowling Challenge. Since then, in addition to advising majors and minors, I have served my department on two search committees, as well as on

committees organizing our new Master's program and arranging for such locally-hosted national conferences as the Annual Meeting of the ACPA.

My service to the broader university has included six years with the Faculty Committee on the Mission and Identity of Loyola Marymount University, a committee charged with integrating faculty from diverse backgrounds within a university institutionally identified with the Catholic Church. I served as the Acting Director of the Humanities Program during the academic year 2003-4, and left that responsibility to take over as Director of the Ethics Minor Program. For two years from 2004-6, I was intensely engaged as Co-director of the 2006 "Bellarmine Forum," a week-long, campus-wide event with a \$100,000 budget sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts to bring nationally- and internationally-known speakers to Loyola Marymount University—this time, around the topic, "Environmental Responsibility."

**Extra-curricular Service:**

My main volunteer commitment outside the university has been to assist in my Mennonite congregation's Children's Worship, Sunday School, and Childcare programs, and I help lead singing during the adults' worship on a regular basis as well. I also correspond, so to speak, with various tyrants throughout the world through Amnesty International's Letter Writing Network.

**Professional Affiliations:**

Society for Existential Philosophy and Phenomenology  
International Association for Environmental Philosophy  
International Society for Environmental Ethics  
Society for Ecological Restoration

**Languages:**

German (Reading and Spoken); French (Reading)

**References:**

Available on request