

## Curriculum Vitae

### John F. Post

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Vanderbilt University  
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### Publications

Excerpts and summaries of many of these, as well as of works in progress,  
and some complete papers and chapters, are available at:  
<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/~postjf/>

### Books

- The Faces of Existence: An Essay in Nonreductive Metaphysics* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1987), 381 pp. + index.
- Metaphysics: A Contemporary Introduction* (New York: Paragon House, 1991), 203 pp. + index.

### Articles and Critical Studies

- “Naturalism, Reduction and Normativity: Pressing from Below” forthcoming in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 73, No. 1, July 2006; preprint available at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/~postjf/nrnnpb.pdf>
- “Reply to Gale and Pruss” *Philo*, 7 (2004), 114-121; preprint available at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/~postjf/gale&pruss.htm>
- “Method, Madness, and Normativity” *Philo*, 6, no. 2 (2003); preprint available at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/~postjf/mmn.htm>
- “Omniscience, Weak PSR, and Method” *Philo*, 6, no. 1 (2003), 33-48; preprint available at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/~postjf/omwpsrmeth.htm>
- “Sense and Supervenience,” *Philo*, 4 (2001), 123-137, preprint available at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/~postjf/sensup.htm>
- “Sic Transitivity: Reply to McGrew and McGrew,” with Derek Turner, *The Journal of Philosophical Research*, 25 (2000), 67-82., preprint available at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/~postjf/sictranspre.pdf>
- “Is Supervenience Asymmetric?” In *Logic, Language and Knowledge: Festschrift in Honor of Oswaldo Chateaubriand*, ed. L. C. Pereira and M. Wrigley (*Manuscrito*, XXII, 1999), 305-344., available at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/~postjf/revads.htm>
- “Post-Quinean Philosophical Investigations,” in *Quine and Wittgenstein*, ed. Robert Arrington and Hans-Johann Glock (Routledge, 1996), 252-279.
- “Epistemology,” a chapter in *Discourse on Method and Meditations in First Philosophy: René Descartes*, ed. David Weissman (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1996), 236-271.
- “The Foundationalism in Irrealism, and the Immorality” *The Journal of Philosophical Research*, vol. 21, 1996, 1-14.

- “ ‘Global’ Supervenient Determination: Too Permissive?” in *Essays on Supervenience*, ed. Elias Savellos and Umit Yalçin (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), 73-100.
- “Naturalism,” in *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy*, ed. Robert Audi (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), 517-518. Second Edition, 1999.
- “Perspectives on Buchler,” *Metaphilosophy*, vol.26 (1995), 279-299.
- “The Infinite Regress Argument,” in *A Companion to Epistemology*, ed. Jonathan Dancy and Ernest Sosa (Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1991), 209-212.
- “Materialism/Physicalism,” in *Handbook of Metaphysics and Ontology*, ed. Hans Burkhardt and Barry Smith (Munich: Philosophia, 1991).
- “Objective Value, Realism and the End of Metaphysics,” *The Journal of Speculative Philosophy*, vol. 4 (1990), 146-160.
- “On Reenchanting the World,” *Research in Philosophy and Technology*, vol. 10 (1990), 243-279.
- “Reply to Ferré, Comment on Trau,” *Research in Philosophy and Technology*, vol. 10 (1990), 287-290.
- “On the Determinacy of Valuation,” *Philosophical Studies* (1984), 315-33.
- “On the Determinacy of Truth and Translation,” printed with the other lead papers from the Spindel Conference on Supervenience (by Haugeland, Horgan, Kim, Levinson and Teller) in *The Southern Journal of Philosophy, Supplement* (1984), 117-35.
- “Comment on Teller,” *The Southern Journal of Philosophy, Supplement* (1984), 163-67.
- “Addendum 1985 to A Gödelian Theorem for Theories of Rationality,” in *Evolutionary Epistemology, Rationality, and the Sociology of Knowledge*, ed. W. W. Bartley and G. Radnitzky, (LaSalle: Open Court, 1987), 265-67.
- “A Gödelian Theorem for Theories of Rationality,” *Proceedings of the 11th International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences* (ICF Press, 1983), 1071-86.
- “Correspondent Truth Without Determinate Reference,” *Proceedings of the 7th International Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science* (Salzburg, 1983), vol. 5, 129-35.
- “Time and Subjunctive Conditionals: Critical Study of Pollock’s *Subjunctive Reasoning*,” *Philosophia* (1981), 405-20.
- “Infinite Regresses of Justification and of Explanation,” *Philosophical Studies* (1980), 31-52.
- “Presupposition, Bivalence and the Possible Liar,” *Philosophia* (1979), 645-50.
- “Critical Study of J. L. Mackie’s *Truth, Probability and Paradox*,” *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* (1975), 73-87.
- “Propositions, Possible Languages, and the Liar’s Revenge,” *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* (1974), 223-34.
- “New Foundations for Philosophical Theology: Quine with God,” *The Journal of Philosophy* (1974), 736-48.
- “Shades of Possibility,” *The Journal of Philosophical Logic* (1974), 155-58.
- “Shades of the Liar,” *The Journal of Philosophical Logic* (1973), 370-86.
- “Referential Presupposition,” *The Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (1972), 160-67.
- “Paradox in Critical Rationalism and Related Theories,” *Philosophical Forum* (1971), 27-61.
- “The Possible Liar,” *Nous* (1970), 405-09.

- “An Analysis of Presupposing,” *Southern Journal of Philosophy* (1968), 167-71.
- “A Defense of Collingwood’s Theory of Presupposition,” *Inquiry* (1965), 332-54.
- “Does Knowing Make a Difference to What is Known?” *Philosophical Quarterly* (1965), 220-28.
- “Special Reasons and Specific Answers,” *Analysis (Supplement)* (1965), 86-93.

## Reviews

- Of James Beilby, ed., *Naturalism Defeated? Essays on Plantinga’s Evolutionary Argument Against Naturalism*, for *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, 2002, at <http://ndpr.icaap.org/content/archives/2002/8/post-beilby.html>
- Of Andrew J. Cortens, *Global-Anti-realism: A Metaphysical Inquiry*, for *The Review of Metaphysics* VOL. 54 (2001), 210-211.
- Of Ruth G. Millikan, *White Queen Psychology*, for *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, vol. 58 (1998), 233-237.
- Of Jaegwon Kim, *Supervenience and Mind: Selected Philosophical Essays*, for *Philosophy of Science*, vol 62 (1995), 338-340.
- Of Richard Gale, *On the Nature and Existence of God*, for *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, vol. 53 (1993), 950-954.
- Of William Alston, *Perceiving God: The Epistemology of Religious Experience*, for *The Journal of Religion*, vol. 73 (1993), 427-428.
- Of Donella Meadows, et al, *Beyond the Limits: Confronting Global Collapse, Envisioning a Sustainable Future*, for *Population and Environment*, vol. 15 (1993), 59-62.
- Of Sybil Wolfram, *Philosophical Logic: An Introduction*, for *Teaching Philosophy*, vol. 14 (1991), 92-94.
- Of Sherwood B. Idso, *Carbon Dioxide and Global Change: Earth in Transition*, for *Population and Environment*, vol. 12 (1991), 419-421.
- Of Stuart G. Shanker, ed., *Gödel’s Theorem in Focus*, for *Canadian Philosophical Reviews*, vol. 9 (July, 1989), 287-290.
- Of C. A. Hooker, *A Realistic Theory of Science*, for *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, vol. 49 (March, 1989), 517-520.
- Of David Weissman, *Intuition and Ideality*, for *The Review of Metaphysics*, Sept., 1988, 415-417.
- Of Haim Gordon, *Dance, Dialogue, and Despair: Existentialist Philosophy and Education for Peace in Israel*, for *The Journal of the British Society for Phenomenology*, vol. 20, no. 1, Jan. 1989, 98-99.
- Of Richard Swinburne, *Faith and Reason*, for *The Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (1983), 707-08.
- Of A. W. Burks, *Chance, Cause, Reason*, for *The New Scholasticism* (1982), 111-21.
- Of Ernest W. Adams, *The Logic of Conditionals*, for *Philosophia* (1982), 131-39.
- Of Milton Fisk, *Nature and Necessity*, for *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* (1978), 189-208.
- Of S. G. Harding, ed., *Can Theories be Refuted?*, for *Isis* (1978), 148-49.

## Previously Published Papers Included in Anthologies

- “A Gödelian Theorem for Theories of Rationality,” reprinted with an “Addendum (1985)” in W. W. Bartley and G. Radnitzky, eds., *Evolutionary Epistemology, Rationality, and the Sociology of Knowledge* (LaSalle: Open Court, 1987), 253-67.
- “Paradox in Critical Rationalism and Related Theories,” in *ibid.*, 223-51, and also in a volume of *Karl Popper: Critical Assessments of Leading Philosophers*, Anthony O’Hear, Editor (London: Routledge, 2004).
- “The Possible Liar,” reprinted with an “Addendum (1985)” in *ibid.*, 217-20.

### Work in Progress

#### **Books**

*From Nature to Norm: An Essay in the Metaphysics of Morals* (**MS available upon request**)  
The book expands on “Naturalism, Reduction and Normativity: Pressing from Below,” forthcoming in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 2006 (listed above).

*Minimal Epistemology: Beyond Terminal Philosophy to Truth* (**précis and Chapter 1 available on request**, and also at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/~postjff/>): a book on epistemology, realism and naturalized epistemic normativity, to develop further the ideas outlined in “Sic Transitivity,” “Epistemology,” “The Foundationalism in Irrealism, and the Immorality,” and “Post-Quinean Philosophical Investigations,” listed above, as well as in the following articles listed below, all available on request: “Regress, Transitivity and Terminal Philosophy,” “God’s-Eye View Arguments Against Realism,” “Using Language to Get Outside Language,” “Does Philosophy Rest on a Mistake?” “Getting an Ought from a Biological Is,” and “Teleosemantics, Physicalism and Ethics.” Chapters include “Terminal Philosophy,” “Sic Transitivity,” “Regress Revisited,” “Minimal Epistemology,” “Best Explanation Explained,” and “From Minimalist to Truth-Indicative.”

#### **Articles**

- “Regress, Transitivity and Terminal Philosophy” (copy available on request)
- “God’s-Eye View Arguments Against Realism” (copy available on request)
- “Using Language to Get Outside Language” (copy available on request)
- “Does Philosophy Rest on a Mistake?” (copy available on request)
- “Teleofunction, Natural Selection and Intensionality” (copy available on request)
- “The Irony of Metaphysics” (copy available on request)
- “Is Irrealism Environmentally Correct?” (develops further the ideas in the final section of “Post-Quinean Philosophical Investigations,” cited above under published articles).
- “Intentionality, Counterexamples and Supervenient Determination” (copy available on request)

### Papers Read at Conferences and Colloquia

**Invited**

- “Adaptation and Realization,” at the Mind Body and Realization Conference, Lafayette College, October 13-15, 2006 (<http://ww2.lafayette.edu/~realizationconference/>)
- “How to Get an Ought from a Biological Is,” at the Symposium on Evolution and Normativity, APA Pacific Division meeting, April 7, 2000.
- “Terminal Philosophy,” at Arkansas State University, November 11, 1999.
- “Breakwater: On Bickle’s *Psychoneural Reduction: The New Wave*,” at the Symposium on Psychoneural Reduction, University of Mississippi, February 26, 1999, available at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/~postjf/comjb.htm>
- “On Cunningham’s *Philosophy and the Darwinian Legacy*,” at the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, April 2, 1999.
- Two talks, one on Philosophy of Biology, one on Environmental Ethics, at the United States Military Academy, West Point, May 5-6, 1998.
- “The Foundationalism in Irrealism,” 1997, at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; North Carolina State University; Wake Forest University; University of Mississippi.
- “Individualism, Normativity and Proper Function,” Duke University, November 15, 1996.
- “Getting an Ought from a Biological Is,” North Carolina Philosophical Society, Feb. 22, 1997
- “Using Language to Get Outside Language,” Conference on Representations, Qualitative and Linguistic, East Carolina University, November 8-9, 1996.
- “God’s-Eye-View Arguments Against Realism,” Realism/Anti-Realism Discussion Group, with the APA meeting in Chicago, April, 1996.
- “Individualism, Propertyhood and Physicalist Requirements,” Symposium on Requirements for (Psycho-)Physicalism, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, April, 1996.
- “Does Philosophy Rest on a Mistake?” Vanderbilt Philosophy Colloquium, January, 1996.
- “Environmental Ethics and Value in the World,” Western Michigan University, November 14, 1994.
- “The Epistemic Foundationalism in Irrealism,” Western Michigan University, November 13, 1994.
- “The Foundationalism in Irrealism, and the Immorality,” Presidential Address, Central States Philosophical Association, October 28, 1994.
- “Teleosemantics, Physicalism and Ethics,” Conference on Complex Representations, VPI, March 19, 1994.
- “The Irony of Metaphysics,” University of Texas (Austin), October 23, 1992, and several places elsewhere since.
- “Properties of Supervenient Determination,” University of Texas (Austin), October 24, 1992.
- “‘Global’ Supervenience: Too Permissive?” East Carolina University, November 11, 1992.
- “Objective Value and the End of Metaphysics,” The Metaphysical Society of America, March 18, 1989.
- “Weissman’s *Intuition and Ideality*,” Book Symposium at the APA (Pacific Division), March 26, 1988.
- “On Reenchanted the World,” The Society of Christian Philosophers (with the APA (Eastern Division)), Dec. 27, 1987.
- “Reconstituting the Shattered Picture of the World,” various colleges and universities.

- “Physicalism and Theism,” Colgate University (1986)
- “On the Determinacy of Truth and Translation,” The Spindel Conference on Supervenience (1983), and also at The Society for Exact Philosophy (1984)
- “A Gödelian Theorem for Theories of Rationality,” 11th Annual Meeting of the International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences (1982)
- “Over-Formalizing Medieval Logic,” Medieval Colloquium, University of the South (1982)
- “Comment on Mavrodes,” Notre Dame Conference in Philosophy of Religion (1976)
- “God Theory,” Calvin College (1976)
- “Cosmological Arguments,” Purdue University (1976)
- “Naturalism, Theism and Ultimate Explanation,” University of Notre Dame (1975)
- “Comment on T. S. Kuhn,” Furman University Conference on the Limits of Reason in the Sciences and the Humanities (1973)
- “Self-Reference in Epistemology,” University of Georgia (1972)
- “Presupposing,” Annual Linguistics Institute, S.U.N.Y. Buffalo (1971)
- “Rationality and Education,” Southern Society for Philosophy (1971)
- “Comment on J. Odell’s ‘Nonsense’,” APA (Eastern Division) (1970)
- “Rationality and the Possible Liar: II,” The London School of Economics (1970)
- “Rationality and the Possible Liar: I,” The London School of Economics (1970)
- “The Modal Liar Paradox and its Implications,” City University of New York (1969)
- “The Logical Problem of Referential Presupposition,” University of Virginia (1969)
- “Paradoxes and the Theory of Rationality,” College of William and Mary (1969)
- “The Logic of Question and Answer,” Wesleyan University (Connecticut) (1967)

### **Refereed**

- “Supervenience, Reduction and Intentionality,” Central States Philosophical Association, and Southern Society for Philosophy (1990)
- “Discussing Sundials with a Bat,” Southern Society for Philosophy (1984)
- “Correspondent Truth without Determinate Reference,” at The 7th International Congress for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science; Salzburg (1983)
- “On the Determinacy of Valuation,” lead symposium paper, Southern Society for Philosophy (1982)
- “Time and Counterfactuals,” APA (Western Division) (1978)
- “Infinite Justificational Regresses,” APA (Pacific Division) (1978)
- “Physicalism and the Universe as a Whole,” Southern Society for Philosophy (1977)
- “Ultimate Explanation,” APA (Pacific Division)
- “New Foundations for Philosophical Theology: Quine with God,” lead symposium paper, APA (Eastern Division) (1974)
- “Possible Languages,” APA (Pacific Division) (1974)
- “Paradox in Quine’s Epistemology,” Symposium Paper, APA (Eastern Division) (1971)
- “The Possible Liar and Solutions to the Liar,” APA (Western Division) (1971)
- “Modal Antinomies of Self-Reference,” Southern Society for Philosophy (1969)
- “Some Conditions for the Explication of Presupposition,” APA (Eastern Division) (1968)
- “An Analysis of Presupposing,” Southern Society for Philosophy (1968)

**Other**

Referee/reader for: various presses (Yale, Oxford, Cambridge, Cornell, MIT, Columbia, Routledge, Prometheus, Ashgate, Prentice-Hall, Paragon House...); various journals (*Nous*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Synthese*, *Journal for Philosophical Research*, *Philo*, *Southern Journal of Philosophy*...).

Commentator on numerous papers at meetings of the APA as well as other meetings and conferences, including:

Commentator on Andrew Melnyk, "Physicalism as a Scientific Hypothesis," at the March, 1997, meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology.

Commentator on Carl Gillett, "Physicalism and the Completeness of Physics," at the March, 1997, meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology.

Commentator on Lad Sessions, "On Interpreting Hume's Dialogues," at the February, 1998, meeting of the Society for Philosophy of Religion.

Commentator on Dodd, "Armstrong's 'Truthmaker Argument'," at the March, 1998, meeting of the Mid-South Philosophy Conference.

**Academic Honors and Fellowships**

Whichard Visiting Distinguished Professor in the Humanities, East Carolina University, AY 1996-97

NEH Summer Institute on Naturalism, Robert Audi, Director, University of Nebraska, 1993.

American Council of Learned Societies, Grant-in-Aid (1970)

National Endowment for the Humanities, Fellowship (7 months, in London, 1970)

Chair, International Commission for Evaluating the Project for Peace in Israel (University of the Negev), 1979-82.

Outstanding Educators of America (1975)

Vanderbilt University Research Council Direct Research Support Grants (1975, 1979-82, 1991)

Vanderbilt University Summer Stipends (1968, 1971, 1975, 1979)

Advanced Graduate Fellowship, Berkeley (AY 1964-65)

Teaching Fellow, Berkeley (1964)

Distinction on Prelims, Berkeley (1963)

Award for Teaching, University of Wisconsin (1959)

Divisional Recommendation for High Honors (History), Harvard (1958)

Magna Cum Laude, Harvard (1958)

Phi Beta Kappa, Harvard (1958)

Harvard College Scholarship (1954-58)

**Professional Activities**

Whichard Visiting Distinguished Professor in the Humanities, East Carolina University, AY 1996-97.

President, Central States Philosophical Association (1993/94)

Vice-President, Central States Philosophical Association (1992/93)

Advisory Committee to the Program Committee, 1992-1995, APA (Eastern Division); Field: Metaphysics.

Chair, APA Program Committee, 1986 (Eastern Division)

APA Program Committee Member, 1985 (Eastern Division)

Outside Reviewer of the Program in Philosophy at Memphis State University (1986)

Member of: APA (Eastern Division), AAAS, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Society for Philosophy of Religion, Central States Philosophical Association, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Society for Exact Philosophy, Philosophy of Science Association, Tennessee Philosophical Association, Metaphysical Society of America, International Society for Environmental Ethics.

### **Committees and Offices Held at Vanderbilt**

College Liberal Undergraduate Education (CLUE) Committee, 1998-99

Chair, Dean's Search Committee for External Department Chair (1994-95)

Faculty Council, (1994--)

Director of Undergraduate Studies in Philosophy (1982-83, 1991-1995)

Chair, College Committee on Academic Standards and Procedures (1994-1995)

President, Vanderbilt Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (Alpha of Tennessee) (1992-1994)

College Program Committee (1993-1995)

College Subcommittee on Natural Sciences (1994)

College Committee on the Honors Program (1991--)

Committee on the Communications Major (1991--)

University Officer Education Advisory Committee (1989--)

Advisory Committee for Program of Early Admittance to VU Medical School (1989--91)

Faculty Senate (1988-89)

College Advisory Committee on Health-Related Professions (1988--)

University Committee on Toxic Hazards (1986-91)

Committee on Educational Programs (1974, 1983-84); Chair, 1984-85.

Graduate Faculty Council (1978-81, 1986-87)

Executive Committee, Graduate Faculty Council (1980-81)

Graduate School Representative to the Luce Scholars Selection Committee (1978-85)

University Committee on Engineering, Social Sciences and Humanities (1977-82)

Chancellor's Sorority Study Committee (1968)

University Calendar Committee (1972-75)

University Committee on Man's Physical Well-Being (1972-73)

University Research Council (1971)

College Committee on Linguistics (1974-75)

Faculty Advisor to Skiing and Outing Club (1973-75)

Venture Fund Advisory Committee (1973-75)

College Committee on Teaching and Learning (1969)

Sub-Committee of College Academic Standards Committee on Course-Load and Calendar, and author of final draft (50 pp) of this sub-section of The Compton Report (1971-73)

Faculty Advisor to Educational Affairs Council (1969)

Chair, Departmental Speakers Committee (1983-85)  
Chair, Departmental Committee on Logic Offerings and Requirements (1977-78)  
Departmental Committee on New Graduate Applications (1971-79)  
Departmental Committee on Undergraduate Majors (1972-73)  
Chair, Departmental Committee on Course Evaluation (1974-75)

**Academic Positions and Education**

Whichard Visiting Distinguished Professor in the Humanities, East Carolina University, AY  
1996-97.  
Professor of Philosophy, Vanderbilt University (1984-2001); Emeritus (2001)  
Visiting Professor of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame (AY 1975-76)  
Associate Professor, Vanderbilt (1970-84)  
Assistant Professor, Vanderbilt (1968-70)  
Instructor, Vanderbilt (1965-68)

B.A., Harvard, 1958 (History)  
M.A., Wisconsin, 1959 (Philosophy)  
Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 1968 (Philosophy)