

# Natalie H. Hannan

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## RESEARCH FOCUS

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**Areas of Specialization (AOS):** Ancient Philosophy, Epistemology

**Areas of Competence (AOC):** Ethics, Early Modern Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion

## EDUCATION

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**Columbia University, New York, NY**

*Ph.D. in Philosophy*

Expected May 2021

Dissertation: *The Socratic Paradoxes and Plato's Epistemology*

Sponsor: Katja Vogt

In my dissertation, I explore issues at the intersection of ancient epistemology, action theory, and ethics, relating to a set of Socratic claims commonly known as “Socratic Paradoxes”—that no one does injustice voluntarily, and that virtue is knowledge. I argue that these claims are a primary motivation for Plato to develop a unique, specialized picture of *epistēmē* and that understanding this motivation can help solve some of the issues typically associated with this picture. The foci of my analysis are Plato's *Hippias Minor*, *Protagoras*, and *Republic*. I also examine virtue, voluntary action, and knowledge in Aristotle's *Eudemian Ethics*, arguing that his treatment of these issues shows that the epistemological implications of the Socratic Paradoxes are important and much debated in Plato's Academy.

*M.Phil. in Philosophy*

May 2019

*M.A. in Philosophy*

February 2018

**Princeton University, Princeton, NJ**

*B.A. in Philosophy; Certificate in Pipe Organ Performance*

May 2016

Senior Thesis: *An Analysis of the Changes in Plato's Epistemology from the Republic to the Theaetetus*

Supervisor: Benjamin Morison

Independent Project: *Forming Knowledge and Informing Opinion: Doxa in Plato's Republic and Its Epistemological Implications*

Supervisor: Benjamin Morison

Independent Project: *Leaving Room for Faith: Christian Skepticism and Montaigne's Adaptation of Pyrrhonism*

Supervisor: Daniel Garber

### **HONORS AND GRANTS**

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**2018-2019** George John Bowdery Memorial Fund in Philosophy Fellowship, Columbia University

**2017-2018, 2016-2017** Benjamin Wolstein Fellowship, Columbia University

**2016** Election to Phi Beta Kappa, Princeton University

**2013** Harold T. and Vivian B. Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence, Princeton University

### **PRESENTATIONS**

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**"Knowledge and Voluntary Injustice in the *Hippias Minor*"**

43<sup>rd</sup> Ancient Philosophy Workshop, The University of Texas at Austin (Austin, March 2020)

Ancient Philosophy Workshop, New York University (New York, November 2019)

Research Group in Ancient and Contemporary Philosophy, Columbia University (video conference, July 2019)

Ancient Philosophy Workshop for Female Graduate Students and Early Career Researchers, Humboldt University (Berlin, December 2018)

**"Truth, Lying, and *Doxa* in Plato's *Republic*"**

Early Career Workshop, Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies (Hamburg, January 2020)

### **COMMENTARIES**

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**Monika Platz, "*Wrongdoing in Epistemic Education*"**

Munich-New York City Workshop in Ethics, Columbia University (March 2020)

**Sukaina Hirji, "*How Virtue is a Means to Contemplation*"**

Workshop in Ancient and Contemporary Philosophy, Columbia University (October 2019)

**Sosseh Assaturian, "*What the Forms Are Not: Plato on Conceptualism in Parmenides 132b-c*"**

Columbia-NYU Graduate Student Conference, New York University (April 2019)

**Simon Shogry, "*Vicious Character Traits as Rational Mistakes: The Early Stoic Explanation of the Diversity of Moral Error*"**

Workshop in Ancient and Contemporary Philosophy, Columbia University (March 2019)

**Ricardo Salles, “*The Early Stoic Proofs of the Intelligence of the Cosmos and Philebus 29a9-30a8*”**

Workshop in Ancient and Contemporary Philosophy, Columbia University (October 2017)

**Kendall Fisher, “*Thomas Aquinas on the Subsistence of the Rational Soul*”**

Workshop in Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy for Early Career Women, Fordham University (April 2017)

**Sam McVane, “*Paradox and the Fool in Seneca*”**

Workshop in Ancient and Contemporary Philosophy, Columbia University (October 2016)

## **TEACHING**

**Epistemology** TA Spring 2020 (Jessica Collins)

**Aristotle** TA Fall 2019 (Katja Vogt)

**Introduction to Philosophy (Barnard)** TA Spring 2019 (Naomi Dershowitz)

**History of Philosophy I: Presocratics through Augustine** TA Fall 2018 (Dhananjay Jagannathan)

**History of Philosophy II: Aquinas through Kant** TA Spring 2018 (John Morrison)

**History of Philosophy I: Presocratics through Augustine** TA Fall 2017 (Katja Vogt)

## **SELECTED COURSEWORK**

**Plato’s *Timaeus*** Katja Vogt\*

**Plato’s *Theaetetus***: David Charles and Verity Harte (Yale)\*

**Theophrastus**: Wolfgang Mann\*

**Aristotelian Naturalisms**: Dhananjay Jagannathan\*

**Plato’s *Philebus***: Katja Vogt

**History of Epistemology**: Elliot Paul\*

**Epictetus and Stoic Philosophy**: Wolfgang Mann

**Aristotle and Aristotelian Ethics**: Jessica Moss and David Velleman (NYU)

**Early Modern Epistemology**: Christia Mercer

**Descartes’ *Meditations***: Elliot Paul

\*indicates audit

## **LANGUAGES**

**Ancient**: Greek and Latin (advanced reading proficiency)

**Modern**: French and German (intermediate reading, writing, and speaking proficiency)

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE**

Organizing Committee, New Narratives in Philosophy (2018-)

Graduate Student Representative to the Philosophy Department (2018-2019)

Women in Philosophy (WIP), Columbia Chapter (2016-)

**REFERENCES**

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*Katja Vogt*, Professor of Philosophy, Columbia University  
[kv2101@columbia.edu](mailto:kv2101@columbia.edu)

*Dhananjay Jagannathan*, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Columbia University  
[dj2493@columbia.edu](mailto:dj2493@columbia.edu)

*John Morrison*, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Barnard-Columbia University  
[jmorriso@columbia.edu](mailto:jmorriso@columbia.edu)