

Dr. Timothy Franz

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Education

- PhD The New School for Social Research, Philosophy, August 2019
Dissertation: Salomon Maimon's *Opus Alienum*: from Criticism to Transcendental Philosophy'
- MA The New School for Social Research, Philosophy, December 2011
Thesis: Maimon, Kant, and Intellectual Intuition
- BA Boston University, University Professors Program ('Philosophy and Politics with an Emphasis on European History'), May 2002
Thesis: 'Ernst Jünger and Georges Bataille on Materialism and the Experience of World War One'

Areas of Specialization

Immanuel Kant, Salomon Maimon, German Idealism

Areas of Competence

Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy, Logic, Ethics, Phenomenology, Philosophy of Science, Bioethics

Languages

Reading proficiency in Ancient Greek and German; reading competency in French

Honors and Awards

- 2020 Alfred Schutz Memorial Award in Philosophy and Sociology (for dissertation)
- 2018 Dissertation Scholarship, NSSR
- 2009 to 2012, GI Bill and Yellow Ribbon Scholarship
- Military awards/distinctions including Combat Action, Purple Heart, and Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal
- 2002, University Professors' Award, Best Senior Thesis (Ernst Jünger and Georges Bataille on Materialism and the Experience of World War One), Boston University
- 1998-2002 Cardinal Madeiros Full Tuition Merit Scholarship, Boston University

Fellowships

- FONDECYT Postdoctoral Research Scholarship at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile (2022-2025, for project "Salomon Maimon and the Metaphysics of Apperception")
- Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture Fellowship (2020-2021, for a translation of Maimon's *Versuch einer neuen Logik*)
- Junior Fellow at the Maimonides Centre for Advanced Studies (MCAS), University of

Hamburg, (April 1, 2018, to April 1, 2019)
Kennington Foundation Scholarship (2017, for veterans in higher education)

Publications

Books:

Salomon Maimon's Essay on a New Logic or Theory of Thinking, Presented with Philosophical Commentary, Oxford University Press. Accepted.
Editor of Salomon Maimon's *Kritische Untersuchungen über den menschlichen Geist oder das höhere Erkenntniß- und Willensvermögen* for Band 6 of Salomon Maimon's *Gesamtausgabe, Reihe I: Deutsche Schriften*. Frommann-Holzboog. Forthcoming.

Articles:

“Salomon Maimon’s *On the Weltseele (Entelechia Universi)*, Translation and Commentary,” *The Graduate Faculty Philosophy Journal*, (Fall 2020), pp. 533-552.
“The Place of the *World-Soul* in the Development of Maimon's Thought,” *The Graduate Faculty Philosophy Journal* (Fall 2020), pp. 515-531.
“What was Maimon After? Metaphysical Foundations of Natural Science in 1790,” Y. Meyrav (ed.), *Yearbook of the Maimonides Centre for Advanced Studies*, Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter, 2019.
Review of “Maimon’s Autobiography, the Complete Translation,” in the *European Journal of Jewish Studies*, 17 Aug. 2020, pp. 1-5.

Presentations

March 24, 2023, 'The Justification of Deduction in Kant's *False Subtlety and Beyond*,' at the North American Kant Society Biennial at UNAM, Mexico City. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9H2cCJ1MXs>
September 17, 2021, ‘Maimon’s Baumgarten Commentary’ at the Leuven Reading Group for Classical German Philosophy
March 11, 2021, ‘Maimon's Interweaving of General and Transcendental Logic in the Essay on a New Logic or Theory of Thinking’ at the Leuven Seminar in Classical German Philosophy
May 20, 2019, ‘They Go from Strength to Strength: Salomon Maimon’s Way from Critique to Transcendental Philosophy,’ presented at the lecture series ‘Toleranz & Skepsis: Moses Mendelssohn, Salomon Maimon und die Jüdische Aufklärungsphilosophie’ at the Universität Hamburg
February 19, 2019, ‘Salomon Maimon and Transcendental Philosophy’ presented at ‘Themes in Early Modern Judaism’, a conference at MCAS with cooperation of Johns Hopkins University

Teaching

‘Beginning Informal Logic,’ City University of New York, York College Campus, Fall 2021.

'Ethical Issues in Health Care,' Western Connecticut State University, Fall 2020
'Introduction to Philosophy,' Western Connecticut State University, Fall 2020, Spring 2020
'Medieval Philosophy,' Western Connecticut State University, Spring 2020
TA, recitation leader, and lecturer for NYU Core Curriculum, 'Democracy, Knowledge, and Equality', Fall 2017
TA for NYU Classics course, 'History of the Roman Empire', Fall 2016
TA and lecturer for NYU Classics course, 'Ancient Mythology', Spring 2016, Spring 2014
'Introduction to Philosophy', Western Connecticut State University, Fall 2016, Spring 2016, Fall 2015
'Moral Issues in Modern Society', Western Connecticut State University, Fall 2016, Summer 2016, Spring 2016, Fall 2015
'Bioethics', Marymount Manhattan, Fall 2015, Spring 2015
TA, recitation leader, and lecturer for NYU Core Curriculum, 'Expressive Cultures: Performance', Fall 2015, Fall 2014, and Fall 2013

Other Work Experience

US Military 2002-2009

Graduate Level Coursework

Hegel's *Phenomenology of Spirit*
Plato's *Republic*
Hobbes' *Leviathan*
Hegel's *Phenomenology of Spirit 2*
Continental Philosophy and Neuroscience
Recognition and Relations of Right
Kant's Critique of Judgment
Psychoanalysis and Deconstruction
The Being and Well-Being of the Soul
Modern Deductive Logic
Dogmas of Empiricism
Heidegger's *Being and Time*
Spinoza's *Ethics*
Aristotle and Aquinas on Prudence
Plotinus
Kant's Doctrine of Illusion
Euclid's *Elements*
Kant and Husserl
Levinas and...
Foucault and Political Philosophy

Reading Groups

Classical German Philosophy, Leuven University, 2020-current
Greek and Latin Reading Group, NSSR, 2009-2014
German Reading Group, NSSR, 2009-2010

Other Coursework

CUNY Advanced Ancient Greek, Summer 2015

CUNY Summer Intensive Greek, 2011

Professional Statement

I am currently working on the neglected but important philosophy of Salomon Maimon. First of all, the details of his work have never been properly understood. Second, I find his work, as it culminates in the *Essay on a New Logic or Theory of Thinking*, to be an important locus for exploring the origin and intersection of the various philosophical disciplines, centrally those of logic, metaphysics, philosophy of science and mathematics, ethics, aesthetics, and the philosophy of right, together in a theory of philosophical reflection. This work on Maimon has opened up a new perspective on the work of Immanuel Kant. I believe that if we take Kant as a philosopher who was just as concerned with the justification of formally valid logical reasoning as any metaphysician from Aristotle to Wolff, we can understand better the individual arguments of the *Critique of Pure Reason*, their interconnection in a whole argument, and its metaphysical significance. At a more personal level, I relate this work to my time in the military and in the unfortunate war in Iraq, and I believe, as Kant, Maimon, Fichte, and many other people have believed, that it is important to advocate for individual philosophical reflection. This inspires my teaching, whether it is on Plato, logic, medieval philosophy, or any subject whatever.

References

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