

Max Grober, Ph.D.

Dean of Humanities and Professor of History

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Education

- Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, 1990
- M.A. University of California, Berkeley, 1980
- A.B. University of California, Berkeley, 1977 (Highest Honors, Phi Beta Kappa)

Employment:

- Austin College Dean of Humanities, 2014-
 Professor of History, 2013-
 Associate Professor of History, 2001-13
 Assistant Professor of History, 1997-2001
- University of Oregon Visiting Assistant Professor of History, 1992-97
- Colgate University Visiting Assistant Professor of History, 1990-92
 Visiting Instructor in History, 1989-90

Publications

Review of Roger L. Emerson, *Essays on David Hume, Medical Men and the Scottish Enlightenment: 'Industry, Knowledge and Humanity'*. *Hume Studies* 38 (2012): 243-47

“‘A Steady Contempt of Life’: Suicide Narratives in Hume and Others.” *Journal of Scottish Philosophy* 10, no. 1 (2012): 51-68

Abstract: “The Rhetoric of Hume’s Essay ‘Of Suicide’,” in *David Hume and Modern Philosophy: International Conference Proceedings*, Vol. 6: *Social Theory, Politics, History, Economics*, Moscow, The Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Science (2011): 53-56.

Review of Kristie Mackrakis and Dieter Hoffman, eds., *Science under Socialism: East Germany in Comparative Perspective*. *History: Reviews of New Books* 28 (1999): 19

“‘Time and Chance Happeneth to Them All’: The Anguished Providentialism of Charles Bonnet,” in *Reconceptualizing Nature, Science, and Aesthetics: Contributions à une nouvelle approche des Lumières helvétiques*, Patrick Coleman, et al., eds., Geneva, Slatkine (1998): 57-68

“Harmony, Structure, and Force in the *Essai analytique sur les facultés de l’âme* of Charles Bonnet.” *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 31 (1995): 34-50

“The Natural History of Heaven and the Historical Proofs of Christianity: *La Palingénésie philosophique* of Charles Bonnet.” *Studies on Voltaire and the Eighteenth Century* 308 (1993): 233-55

Conference Papers and Comments

Comment on Cristina Paoletti (University of Ferrara), "Human Nature and Improvement of the Understanding: Hume's Influence on William Cullen's History of Medicine," presented at the annual meeting of the Hume Society in Portland, Oregon, July, 2014

"Hume on the Cruelty of Nature toward Man," presented at the conference on *Religion in the Scottish Enlightenment* at the Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey, March, 2014

"The Rhetoric of Hume's Essay 'Of Suicide'," presented at the conference "Hume and Modern Philosophy" in Moscow, Russian Federation, November, 2011

Comment on Gregory Bouchard (McGill University), "Hume and the Select Society of Edinburgh," presented at the annual meeting of the Hume Society in Calgary, Alberta, July, 2012

"The Philosophy of Mr. Genius: The Literary Context of Hume's Essay 'Of Suicide'," presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies in Vancouver, British Columbia, March, 2011

"Concepts of God in Hume's Essay 'Of Suicide,'" presented at the annual meeting of the Hume Society in Antwerp, Belgium, July, 2010

"'What Cato Did': The Eighteenth-Century Case Against Toleration for Suicide," presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies in Albuquerque, New Mexico, March, 2010

"'A Steady Contempt of Life': Suicide Narratives in Hume and Others," presented at the conference on *Practical Ethics and the Scottish Philosophical Tradition* at the Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey, March, 2010

Comment on Colin Heydt (University of South Florida), "Contextualizing Hume as a Practical Moralist," presented at the annual meeting of the Hume Society in Halifax, Nova Scotia, August, 2009

"'Time and Chance Happeneth to Them All': The Anguished Providentialism of Charles Bonnet," UCLA Center for 17th and 18th Century Studies, Los Angeles, 1997

"The Tyrannical Passion to See: Observation, Imagination and *Entendement* in the Thought of Charles Bonnet," American Society for 18th-Century Studies, Annual Meeting, Seattle, 1992

"The Resurrection and the Life Sciences," American Society for 18th-Century Studies, Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, 1991

Dissertation

Charles Bonnet of Geneva: From Natural History to Metaphysical Romance
University of California, Berkeley (1990)

Committee: William J. Bouwsma, Martin E. Malia, Walter E. Rex

Teaching Fields

Early Modern Europe
History of Ideas
History of Science
Environmental History
History of Women

Teaching Award

Austin College Humanities Faculty Teaching Award (2002)

Collaborative Research and Teaching Development

Mellon Course Partnership Grant to prepare partnership between History 350 Darwin and Philosophy 307 Environmental Philosophy (2014)
Keck Grant to revise and update History 350 Darwin (2012)
Mellon Course Partnership Grant to prepare partnership between History 333 Enlightenment and Revolutions and Philosophy 225 Early Modern Philosophy (2011)
Mellon Summer Collaborative Research Grant (2005, student partner: Peter Odom)
Heritage of Western Culture course development workshop (2002, organizer)

External Courses for College Faculty

National Science Foundation Short Course for College Teachers: "Galileo's Genius Viewed in Scientific, Artistic, Political, and Religious Contexts," Florence, Italy (2004 and 2005, co-instructor)

Program Leadership

Dean of Humanities (2014-)
Chair, Department of History (2005-10)
Director, Heritage of Western Culture Program (2001-05)

Campus Committees

Faculty Compensation Task Force (2014-)
Vice President for Academic Affairs Search Committee (2012-13)
College Planning Committee (2004)
Executive Committee of the Faculty (2002-05, chair 2003-04)
Curriculum Review Steering Committee (2001-03)
Faculty Hearing Committee (2003 (served as alternate) and 2009-10)
Faculty Grievance Committee (2000-01)

Program Committees

Library Committee (2007-)
Western Intellectual Tradition Committee (2007-, chair 2007-10)
Heritage of Western Culture Advisory Committee (2005-07)
Environmental Studies Advisory Committee (2002-)

Student Honors and Awards Committees, 2001-present

Fulbright Program Advisory Committee (2010-14)
Phi Alpha Theta, National Honor Society in History (2009-)
Phi Beta Kappa (2001-, president 2009-10, 2011-12 and 2013-, vice president 2007-08, 2010-11 and 2012-13, committee on members-in-course chair 2001-03)
Presidential Scholarship Selection Committee (1999-04)
Honors Committee (1997-03)
Alpha Chi, National Honor Society, Faculty Sponsor (1999-2003)

Grant Committees and Consultation

Mellon Course Partnership Ad Hoc Committee (2007-08)
Keck Integrated Sciences Grant Steering Committee (2004)
Keck Integrated Sciences Grant proposal (2002-03, consultant)

Austin College Guest Lectures, Public Lectures, Panels and Book Groups

Johnson Center Book Group: Peter Bowler's *Darwin Deleted: Imagining a World without Darwin* (2015, chair)
Guest lecture in Philosophy 307, Environmental Philosophy: "Debating Darwin" (2014)
Johnson Center Book Group: Anthony Grafton's *Worlds Made by Words: Scholarship and Community in the Modern West* (2012, co-chair)
Alumni College IDEA Center celebration lecture: "Inquiry" (2011)
Guest lecture in Philosophy 209, Ethics and Medicine: "Suicide in European History" (2010)
Guest lecture in Religious Studies 350 Scientology: "L. Ron Hubbard and the Golden Age of Pulp Fiction" (2010)
Darwin 200 Student Panel: "Darwin and the Curriculum: Two Models" (2009, chair)
Tuesday Afternoon lecture: "Charles Bonnet of Geneva: From Natural History to Metaphysical Romance" (2008)
Tuesday Afternoon panel: "Galileo in Context: Highlights of Four Chautauqua Courses for College Teachers" (2007)
Guest Lecture in HWC 44 Integrated Science "The History of the Warfare Between Science and the Humanities" (2004)
Catholic Students Association Lecture: "The Window on the West: J.R.R. Tolkien and *The Lord of the Rings*" (1998)

Professional Associations

American Historical Association
American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies
History of Science Society
Hume Society