

Lucas P. Depierre

The University of Chicago – PhD Candidate

lucasdepierre@uchicago.edu | +1 872 362 2545 | [Website](#) | [Academic Profile](#)

Specialization: Medieval Metaphysics (Latin & Arabic), especially John Scottus Eriugena, Abū Naṣr al-Fārābī, and Pierre Abélard.

Competence: Medieval Theology and Philosophy. Classical Islamic Philosophy. Ancient and Medieval History of Christianity. Continental Philosophy of Religion. Emil Cioran, French Moralists.

Education

PhD

In progress

The University of Chicago, Divinity School | Chicago, IL. United States

Main Advisor: Prof. Willemien Otten.

Doctoral committee: Prof. Ryan Coyne; Prof. Raissa von Doetinchem de Rande.

Qualifying Examination | *highest grades in all*

- History of Christianity (Medieval)
- Classical Islamic Philosophy
- Philosophy of Religion & Metaphysics (Modern)
- Theology (Ancient & Medieval)

Diss. Title: “On Whoness: Quitting the Ancients with Eriugena, al-Fārābī, and Abelard.”

This dissertation investigates the richness and particular contours of the conceptual models of human individual identity in Eriugena, al-Fārābī, and Abelard.

STL

In progress

Catholic University of Paris | Paris, France

“The Eucharist Without Substance: The Body of Christ in the Carolingian Age.”

Supervisor: Professor Christopher Lazowski.

MPhil

2022

Philosophy: Metaphysics, History of Philosophy

Aix-Marseille Université | Aix-en-Provence, France

Major field thesis: “La *theōsis* dans le *Periphyseon*: Par-delà la nature humaine [*Theōsis* in the *Periphyseon*: Beyond Human Nature]” (80 pages).

Supervisor: Prof. Isabelle Koch. Co-reader: Prof. Valérie Debuiche.

Minor field thesis: “Les moralistes français et la philosophie: une philosophie en archipel [French Moralists and Philosophy: An Archipelagic Philosophy]” (110 pages). Supervisor: Prof. Valérie Debuiche.

Summa cum laude (highest honor).

MA 2021	Theology & Philosophy Sacred Heart Major Seminary Detroit, MI, United States <u>Master's thesis</u>: "Inquiry on Pascal's understanding of <i>le moi</i>" (84 pages). <u>Supervisor</u>: Prof. Robert Fastiggi. <u>Co-reader</u>: Prof. Donald Wallenfang. <i>Summa cum laude</i> (highest honor).
"Grande École" 2016	École des Ponts et Chaussées ParisTech Paris, France Theoretical physics and mathematics, theoretical mechanics. (Oldest engineering school in the world.)
BA 2015	Mathematics & Physics (French equivalent) Lycée du Parc Lyon, France MPSI: Mathematics, theoretical physics.

Publications

Books

- ***Lettres d'ailleurs: Vertiges d'une âme au bord d'elle-même.*** Book Series: "Religion et spiritualité." Paris: L'Harmattan, 2024.
A spiritual and poetical book dealing with spiritual life in discussion with the world beyond the academy.
- ***Une philosophie en archipel.*** Paris: Les Trois Colonnes, 2022.
An essay on the metaphysical propensity of aphorism, from Blaise Pascal to Emil Cioran. A discussion between Christian and Atheist figures on thinking and writing.

Anonymous peer-reviewed publications

Articles

- "Being an Island: From Presence to Meaning in Teresa of Cartagena." *Church History* (Cambridge). *Under minor revision.*
- "The Ascendancy of Soul's Whoness: How Ibn Sīnā Upended Ancient Greek Paradigms on Human Soul." In *Journal of Islamic Philosophy*. *Under minor revision.*
- "From Medieval Will to Power to Racism: A Study of Ortega y Gasset and the Middle Ages." In *Philosophical Journal of Conflict and Violence* (2026). *Forthcoming.*
- "Does God's Providence Know Particulars? How Thomas Aquinas's Commentary on Job Engages Jewish and Islamic Debates." In *Terminus. Journal of Early Modern Literature and Culture* 27, no. 4 (2025): 393–418.

- **“Cioran on Time: Falling From Nietzsche.”** In *Journal for Continental Philosophy of Religion* 7 (2025): 194–221.

Critical Articles

- **“The Contours of a Distinctive Metaphysics: Al-Fārābī’s *Book of Letters*.”** In *Religious Studies Review*. (Invited.) *Forthcoming*.
- **“Se dépêtrer de l’individualisme libidinal. Compte rendu critique de Mark Hunyadi, *Le second âge de l’individu*.”** In *Implications philosophiques* (2024), 1-17.

Reviews

- **Western Monastic Spirituality: Cassian, Caesarius of Arles, and Benedict, Haight, Roger, Alfred Pach III, and Amanda Avila Kaminski (eds). New York: Fordham University Press, 2022. (Review).** In *Comitatus: A Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies* 54 (2023).

Edition and Translation

- ***Mémoire des hommes et des livres (Memoria hominum et librorum)*.** In *Studia coranica*. Vol. 1. Edited by M. Azaiez. Brill, 2026. (French to English, *forthcoming*.)

Other publications

- **The Indelibility of Sexual Abuse: In Search of a Voice that Endures.** *Sightings*. 2025.
- **“« Pour lui, l’islam était une religion de la raison » : hommage à l’islamologue Claude Gilliot.”** *La Croix*. March 2025.
- **Willocx, E. *Journal d’une confinée en 9m²*. (Introduction).** Paris: Anovi, 2020.

Currently in preparation

- **“De-individuating Proclus? Toward a Cyclical Collective-Evolutive Paradigm of Individual Identity.”**
- ***The Agnostic Theologian: Emil Cioran’s Archipelagic Thought*.**
- **Review of “Markus, Gilbert. *Presence and Absence: God as ‘Nothing’ in Christian Tradition*. (Seabury Books, 2026).”** In *The Journal of Religion*. (Invited.)

Awards, Fellowships, and Prizes

2026	Tikva Frymer-Kensky Memorial Prize. <i>In “Hebrew Bible” and “Feminist Theology,” for “Being an Island: From Presence to Meaning in Teresa of Cartagena.”</i>
2026	Rashed and Elkhoraiby Islamic Studies Prize. <i>For “The Ascendancy of Soul’s Whoness: How Ibn Sīnā Upended Ancient Greek Paradigms on Human Soul.”</i>
2026	Brepols – <i>Société Internationale pour l’Étude de la Philosophie Médiévale</i> (SIEPM) Stipend.
2026	François Furet Fellowship.
2025	IIRP Travel and Research Grant. <i>For the Society for European Philosophy’s Conference at King’s College London.</i>
2023; 2024; 2026	Funding for Arabic Summer Intensive Study, University of Chicago.
2024	Paper Prize of the 2024 Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies. For “Being an Island: From Presence to Meaning in Teresa of Cartagena.”
2019; 2020; 2021; 2022	Grant of the Financial Fund, “ <i>Re-Connaissance</i> .”
2021	Theud Fund Award.
2020-2021; 2021-2022	French State Scholarship in Philosophy.
2019; 2020	Sacred Heart Grant Fund.
2018; 2019	Avignon City Scholarship.
2015-2016	<i>Ponts et Chaussées</i> , Full Scholarship.
2013-2014; 2014-2015	French State Elite Award.
2013-2014; 2014-2015	French State Scholarship (“ <i>Classes préparatoires</i> ”) (CROUS, income-based – highest funding tier).

Languages

Modern:	French	Native
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	English	Fluent
	Spanish	Fluent. (ARCA, University of Chicago, <i>high pass</i>)
	Arabic	Intermediate. <i>Qalam wa Lawh</i> (Rabat, Morocco), 2023.
	German	Reading intermediate (ARCA, University of Chicago, <i>high pass</i>)
	Italian	Basic reading
	Portuguese	Basic reading
Ancient/Medieval:	Latin	Reading intermediate
	Greek	Reading intermediate
	Classical Arabic	Intermediate. Qasid Arabic Institute (Amman, Jordan), 2023; 2024; 2026.
	Medieval Spanish	Intermediate
	Medieval French	Basic

Conferences / workshops

- **“From Whatness to Whoness: The Conundrum of Individual Identity in Eriugena.”** Société Internationale pour l’Étude de la Philosophie Médiévale (SIEPM). Lisbon, Portugal. 09.3-4.2026. *Forthcoming*.
- **“The Ascendancy of Soul’s Whoness: How Ibn Sīnā Upended Ancient Greek Paradigms on Human Soul.”** University of California, Berkeley. Berkeley, USA. History of Philosophy Society (HOPS). 05.1-2.2026.
- **“The Eucharist Without Substance: The Case of Gottschalk of Orbais and Hincmar of Reims.”** University of Chicago. Theology Club Workshop. Chicago, USA. Respondent: Dr. Samuel Baudinette. 05.14.2026.
- **“On Whoness: Quitting the Ancients with Eriugena.”** University of Chicago. Medieval Studies Workshop. Chicago, USA. *Forthcoming*.
- **“The Ascendancy of Soul’s Whoness: How Ibn Sīnā Upended Ancient Greek Paradigms on Human Soul.”** University of Chicago. Workshop for the Philosophy of Religion. Chicago, USA. Respondent: Mehdi Ali. 01.27.2026.
- **“A Clandestine Platonism: Emil Cioran’s Exile in an Archipelagic World.”** King’s College London. Society for European Philosophy Annual Conference. England, UK. 07.07.2025.

- **“Being an Island: From Presence to Meaning in Teresa of Cartagena (ca. 1425 – after 1478).” Northwestern University.** Session “Women’s Narratives.” Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies. (Awarded 2024 Paper Prize.) 03.21.2024.
- **“Falling from Nietzsche: Emil Cioran on Time and Eternity.” University of Chicago.** Workshop for the Philosophy of Religion. Respondent: Dr. Owen Joyce-Coughlan. 10.23.2023.
- **“Érigène, la *theōsis* et influences orientales [Eriugena, *Theōsis* and Eastern Influences].” Aix-Marseille Université.** Séminaire Hypothèses. Centre Gilles-Gaston Granger. CNRS (National Center for Scientific Research). Marseille, France. 03.15.2022.
- **“The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Hegel, Schopenhauer, and Nietzsche. Part 2: Epistemology.” Mediterranean Catholic Institute (ICM).** Aix-en-Provence, France. 03.16.2019.
- **“The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Hegel, Schopenhauer, and Nietzsche. Part 1: History of Philosophy.” Mediterranean Catholic Institute (ICM).** Aix-en-Provence, France. 03.09.2019.
- **“Mathematics Behind Music.” Mediterranean Catholic Institute (ICM).** Aix-en-Provence, France. 11.28.2018.

Public interventions

- **Respondent for Jeson Ng, “In Praise and Reproach: Ideal Rulers in Poetry From Medieval France and the Islamic East.” University of Chicago.** Medieval Studies Workshop. Chicago, USA. 04.17.2026.
- **“Raison et croyances [Reason and Beliefs].” 02.07.2022; 02.28.2022; 03.07.2022; 03.21.2022.** Service Ecclesial Jeunes. Lyon, France.
- **“La sagesse des couleurs.” Series of conferences: 02.24.2022; 01.27.2022; 12.09.2022; 11.25.2021; 10.28.2021; 09.23.2021.** Conferences on philosophy and human development for young professionals and students, with the Society “Mosaïque.” Lyon, France.
- **“Écoute [Listening].” 11.13.2021.** Opening conference for a series of conferences for the Society “L’Onction.” Marseille, France.

Teaching Experience

- **Teaching Assistant (Graduate Course).** “Three Late Medieval Mystics: Bonaventure, Aquinas, Eckhart.” With Professor Willemien Otten. University of Chicago.
 - Winter, 2026. THEO/HCHR 44400, HIST 42403.

- **Instructor of Record (Undergraduate Course). Religious Studies Preceptor.** Undergraduate Program in Religious Studies, University of Chicago Divinity School.
 - Fall 2025, RLST 29800.
 - “Delivering your Argument.” Winter 2026, Spring 2026. RLST 29900.
- **Teaching Assistant (Undergraduate Course).** “History, Religion, and Politics in Augustine’s *City of God*.” With Professor Willemien Otten and Professor Michael I. Allen. University of Chicago.
 - Winter, 2025. RLST 25301; CLAS 36421/1; HIST 22116/1; CLCV 26421/1; THEO 35301/1; BIBL 35301/1; RETH 35301/1; FNDL 25304/1.
- **Teaching@UChicago.** Certificate from the Center for Teaching and Learning. University of Chicago. 2024.
- **Undergraduate Instructor. Superprof, Aptitude, and self-employed. Aix-en-Provence, France.** Help with undergraduate applications and undergraduate thesis. 2021-2023.
- **Mathematics. Aptitude. Paris, France.** For undergraduate students. Mathematics and physics private instructor. Both self-employed and for the company “Aptitude.” 2015-2017.
- **Mathematics. French Education Ministry. Aix-en-Provence, France.** Mathematics teacher for high school classes at Lycée Vauvenargues (French public high school). 2021.
- **Religious Studies and Human Development Teacher.** Lycée Saint Catherine de Sienné. Aix-en-Provence, France. 2020, 2021.

Other Academic Experience

- **Anonymous peer reviewer for *Philosophical Journal of Conflict and Violence*.**
- **Research Fellow.** International Institute of Research in Paris. John W. Boyer Center, University of Chicago. Spring and Summer 2025. Summer 2026.
- **Research Assistant.** Translation of “Abélard et l’enseignement: une lecture bayardienne.” English to French. With Professor Willemien Otten. University of Chicago. Fall, 2024.
- **Research Assistant.** Quranic Studies. Professor Claude Gilliot. Aix-Marseille University. 2021, 2022, 2023.
- **Librarian.** Cardinal Szoka Library. Detroit, MI. 2019, 2020.

Memberships

- History of Philosophy Society.
- Society for European Philosophy.
- American Academy of Religion.
- The Medieval Academy of America.
- *Académie Florimontane*.
- Society “Semaine Universitaire à Rome.” For the scientific study of the history of Rome. 2022-2024: website editor.

Last update, March 2026.