

David Machek
Curriculum Vitae, Nov 2022

Institut für Philosophie
Universität Bern
Länggassstrasse 49a
3012 Bern, Switzerland
david.machek@philo.unibe.ch

FIELDS OF EXPERTISE

AoS: Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy & Early Chinese Philosophy
AoC: Medieval Philosophy; Post-Kantian Continental Philosophy; Normative Ethics

EDUCATION

2015 Ph.D. East Asian Studies, University of Toronto
2008 M.A. Philosophy & Classical Chinese, Charles University Prague
2006 B.A. Philosophy & Chinese, Charles University Prague

EMPLOYMENT

2019– Research Fellow, Philosophy, University of Berne (SNSF, *Ambizione*)
2016–2018 Postdoctoral Fellow, Philosophy, University of Berne
2009–2015 Teaching Assistant & Course Instructor, East Asian Studies, University of Toronto

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

In press *The Life Worth Living in Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy*.
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2016 *Čínské myšlení zevnitř: Čítanka tradičních čínských komentářů ke Knize Zhuangzi. Překlad a komentář*. [*Chinese Thought from Within: A Reader of Traditional Chinese Commentaries on the Zhuangzi. Translation with Commentary*]. Prague: Faculty of Arts, Charles University. (In Czech)

Edited Volumes

Forth. *Plato's Gorgias. Proceedings of the Twelfth Symposium Platonicum Pragense*.
Leiden - Boston: Brill. (co-edited with Vladimír Mikeš)
2021 *Attention in Ancient Philosophy*.

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2022 “Vice and Impoverishment: Two Perfectionist Bads.”
The Journal of Value Inquiry, online-first version.
- 2022 “Aristotle on the Goodness of Unhappy Lives.”
Journal of the History of Philosophy 60.3: 359–83.
- 2022 “Aristotle on How Pleasure Perfects Activity (*Nicomachean Ethics* x.5, 1175a29-b14): The Optimising-View.”
Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie 104.3: 448–467.
- 2021 “Expert Impressions in Stoicism.” (with Máté Veres)
Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie, online-first version.
- 2021 “Freunde aufgrund des Lebens: Eine aristotelische Theorie der Freundschaft zwischen Eltern und Kindern.”
Zeitschrift für praktische Philosophie 8.1: 37–60.
- 2021 “Is the life of a mediocre metaphysician better than the life of an excellent cobbler? Aristotle on the value of activity in *Nicomachean Ethics* x.”
The Journal of Value Inquiry, online-first version.
- 2021 “Mengzi on Nourishing the Heart By Having Few Desires.”
Philosophy East and West 71.2: 393–413.
- 2020 “Aristotle on Enkratic Ignorance.”
Journal of the History of Philosophy 58.4: 655–678.
- 2020 “Two Stoic Accounts of Psychological Conflict.”
Ancient Philosophy 40.2: 389–409.
- 2018 “Did Seneca Accede to μετριοπάθεια in His Consolatory Texts?”
Ancient Philosophy 38.2: 383–408.
- 2018 “Carving, Taming, or Gardening? Plutarch on Emotions, Reason and Virtue.”
British Journal for the History of Philosophy 26.2: 255–275.
- 2018 “Stoics and Daoists on Freedom As Doing Necessary Things.”
Philosophy East and West 68.1: 174–200.
- 2016 “Using Our Selves: An Interpretation of the Stoic Four-personae Theory in Cicero’s *De Officiis* I.”
Apeiron: A Journal of Ancient Philosophy and Science 49.2: 163–191.
- 2016 “Beyond Sincerity and Pretense: Role-playing and Unstructured Self in the Zhuangzi.” *Asian Philosophy* 26.1: 52–65.
- 2015 “Emotions That Do Not Move: Zhuangzi and Stoics on self-emerging feelings”. *Dao: Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 14.4: 521–544.
- 2012 “Rozum jako forma, emoce jako látka: Plútarchova teorie mravní ctnosti v *De virtute morali*.” [Reason as form, emotions as matter: Plutarch’s theory of moral virtue in *De Virtute morali*]. *Reflexe* 43: 1–20. (In Czech)
- 2012 “The Ideal of Quiescent Mind: «Mind» and «Vital Energy» in China of the Fourth Century B.C.” *Antiquorum Philosophia* 6: 135–158.
- 2011 “The Doubleness of Craft: Motifs of Technical Action in the Life Praxis according to Aristotle and Zhuangzi”.
Dao: Journal of Comparative Philosophy 10.4: 507–526.
- 2010 “Is Freedom in Necessity or in Happiness? The Controversy Between Guo Xiang’s and Lin Xiyi’s Interpretation of Zhuangzi’s Free Rambling.”

Chapters in Volumes

- Forth. “Die Theorie der vier *personae* (*Off.* I.107-125).” In *Cicero: De Officiis* (series *Klassiker Auslegen*), ed. by P. Brüllmann and J. Müller. De Gruyter.
- Forth. “Warum ist Unrecht für den Unrechttuenden schlimmer als Unrecht leiden?” In *Plato’s Gorgias*, ed. by D. Machek and V. Mikeš. Leiden - Boston: Brill.
- 2022 “Can One Become Wise by Learning to Catch Cicadas? Analogies between Crafts and Wisdom in Daoism and Stoicism.” In *Skill in Ancient Ethics* ed. by T. Angier and L. Raphals. London: Bloomsbury Press, 307–328.
- 2021 “Introduction.” In *Attention in Ancient Philosophy*, ed. by D. Machek and M. Veres. Special Issue of *Rhizomata* 9.2, 151–156.
- 2020 “Pozdější tradiční čínské komentáře k Zhuangzi (Cheng Xuanying, Lin Xiyi, Wang Fuzhi)” [“Later Traditional Commentaries on the Zhuangzi”]. In *Čínský, japonský korejský taoismus [Chinese, Japanese and Korean Daoism]*, ed. by J. Beran and O. Král, Praha: Argo, 153–167, 2020.
- 2019 “Skills and Emotions in the Zhuangzi.” In *Skill and Mastery. Philosophical Stories from the Zhuangzi*, ed. by K. Lai and Waiwai Chiu. Rowman & Littlefield.
- 2011 “Tao Yuanming: *Tělo, duch, stín*. Filosofická reflexe smrti ve středověké čínské lyrice. Překlad a Interpretace” [“Tao Yuanming: *Body, Soul and Spirit*. A Philosophical Reflection on Death in Medieval Chinese Poetry. Translation and Interpretation]. In *Acta Universitatis Carolinae, Orientalia Pragensia XVI*, ed. by Olga Lomová. Prague: Charles University, 57–78. (In Czech)

Book Reviews

- 2017 Review of *The Ethical Foundations of Early Daoism: Zhuangzi’s Unique Moral Vision*, by Jung Lee. *Dao: Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 17.1: 129–132.
- 2009 Review of *Konfucius v zrcadle sebraných výroků* by Jaromír Vochala. *Reflexe* 38. (In Czech)

Work in Progress

- Nourishing the Heart and Mind: Self-Cultivation in Early Greece and Ancient China*. (Under contract with Bloomsbury Press)
- “Ethics of Vitality in the *Zhuangzi*”
- “Stoics on the Structure of Happy Life”

GRANTS

- 2023–2027 Charles University Prague, PRIMUS funding scheme
Research group *Role-Ethics in Ancient and Contemporary Philosophy*
11'500'000 CZK (= US\$ 470'000)
- 2019–2022 Swiss National Science Foundation, *Ambizione* Career Funding Scholarship
Project *Carving Up Moral Motivation in Greek and Chinese Thought*
620'000 CHF (= US\$ 630'000)
- 2011–2014 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Canada,
Canada Graduate Vanier Scholarship
Can\$ 150'000

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2015 Charles Fu Foundation and International Society for Chinese Philosophy,
Best Essay Contest
US\$ 3'000
- 2014–2015 University of Toronto
Julia Ching Memorial Fellowship in Chinese Thought and Culture
Can\$ 24'000
- 2009–2010 University of Toronto
Avie Bennett Scholarship
Can\$ 20'000

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

- 2019 *Moral Psychology of Attention in Ancient Philosophy*
University of Berne, 2–3 September.
- 2017 *The Good Life and the Art of Feeling: Emotions as Skills in Chinese and Graeco-Roman ethics.*
University of Berne, 7–9 June.

INVITED TALKS

- 2022 “Roles and Names in Ancient Greek and Chinese Philosophy.”
Symposium on *zheng ming*. Charles University, Prague, November 18.
- 2022 “Aristotle on the Goodness of Unhappy Lives.”
Departmental Talk, Universität Leipzig, 30 June.
- 2022 “Die Theorie der Vier-Personae (Off. i.107-122).”
Workshop *Cicero's De Officiis: Ein kooperativer Kommentar*.
Munich School of Ancient Philosophy, LMU Munich, 10 June.
- 2022 “Das gute Leben als ein gelungenes Rollenspiel.”
Ringvorlesung *Themen in der Antiken Philosophie*
Universität Erlangen, 18 January.

- 2021 “Zhuangzi’s Ethics of Vitality.”
Conference *Sino-Hellenic Environmental Philosophy*
University of Berne, 11 December.
- 2021 “Aristotle on How Pleasure Completes Activity.”
GAPh Workshop *Pleasure and Pain in Ancient Philosophy*
Universität Erlangen, 16 April.
- 2021 “Vice and Impoverishment: Two Perfectionist Bads.”
Departmental Talk, Lingnan University, 22 March.
- 2020 “Aristoteles über die Freundschaft zwischen Eltern und Kindern.”
Departmental Talk, University of Berne, 26 March.
- 2019 “Warum ist Unrecht tun schlimmer als Unrecht leiden?”
Twelfth Symposium Platonicum Pragense
Czech Plato Society, Prague, 15 November.
- 2019 “Aristotle’s Nicomachean Ethics viii.12.”
Meeting of *The Southeast-European Association for Ancient Philosophy*. Charles University, Prague, 15 October.
- 2019 “Xunzi on Emotions.”
3rd Biennial Conference, *European Association for Chinese Philosophy*. Gent University, 4–7 September.
- 2019 “Expert Impressions in Stoicism.” (with Máté Veres)
Workshop *Moral Psychology of Attention in Ancient Philosophy*
University of Berne, 2 September
- 2019 “Stoics and Daoists on Doing Things Well.”
21st International Conference, *International Society of Chinese Philosophy*. University of Berne, 4 July.
- 2018 “Aristotle’s *Rhetorics* i.6.”
Meeting of *The Southeast-European Association for Ancient Philosophy*. Charles University, Prague, 23 November.
- 2018 “Roles and the self behind the roles: A difficult relationship?”
Symposium *Comparing Virtues, Roles, Duties in early China and Graeco-Roman antiquity*. Renmin Universität, Beijing, 5–8 July.
- 2017 “Mengzi, Zhuangzi and Xunzi on the structure of the self.”
2nd Biennial Conference, *European Association for Chinese Philosophy*. University of Basel, 8 September.
- 2017 “Aristotle on akrasia and eating sweets in theatre.”
Conference *The Good Life and the Art of Feeling: Emotions as Skills in Chinese and Graeco-Roman ethics*. University of Berne, 7 June.
- 2016 “Feelings Without Desires: Art of Feeling in Mengzi and Zhuangzi.”
Department of Oriental Languages, University of Oslo, 6 December.
- 2016 “Stoics on the Recalcitrance of Emotions.”
Thymos Group, University of Geneva, 17 November.
- 2016 “China Warring States views about self-cultivation and role-defined self.”
Conference *Ancient Chinese and Greek perspective on cultivation*.
University of New South Wales, Sydney, 15–18 January.
- 2014 “The craft of living according to Zhuangzi and Stoicism.”
Conference *Analogies, Models and Images in early Chinese and Greco-Roman Ethics*. University of Berne, 11 December.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- In Berne “The Epicurean Happiness”
 MA Seminar, Fall 2022 (In German)
 “Klassiker I: Introduction to Ancient and Medieval Philosophy”
 BA Introductory Lecture, Fall 2021 (In German)
 “Self-Cultivation in Ancient Greece and Early China”
 MA Seminar, Fall 2021
 “The Value of Life in Ancient and Contemporary Philosophy”
 BA Seminar, Spring 2021
 “Klassiker I: Introduction to Ancient Philosophy”
 BA Introductory Lecture, Fall 2020 and 2019 (In German)
 “Plato’s *Gorgias*”
 BA Seminar, Spring 2020 (In German)
 “Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics*”
 BA Seminar, Spring 2019 (In German)
 “Akrasia in Ancient and Contemporary Thought”
 BA Seminar, Spring 2018
 “Virtues and Duties in China and Greece” (with R. King)
 MA Seminar, Fall 2016
- In Toronto “Chinese Philosophy”
 BA Introductory Course, Fall 2014
 “Classical Daoism”
 BA Seminar, Fall 2013
 “History of Chinese Philosophy”
 BA Introductory Course, Summer 2012
- In Prague “Freedom in Continental Philosophy”
 BA Seminar, Fall 2008 (In Czech)

PhD SUPERVISION

Leonard Bregenzler, “Art of Living in Seneca”
Department of Philosophy, University of Berne
since 2022 as the main supervisor

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Referee for Cambridge University Press
Australasian Journal of Philosophy
Inquiry
Journal of the History of Philosophy
British Journal for the History of Philosophy
Philosophy East and West
Dao: Journal of Comparative Philosophy
Philosophy Compass
Journal of East Asian Philosophy

LANGUAGES

Native Czech, Slovak
Excellent English, German
Good Modern Chinese
Reading Classical Chinese (excellent), Classical Greek (good), French (good), Latin
 (fair)

EXTRA TRAINING

2003–4 9-month intensive training in modern and classical Chinese, Sichuan
 University, Chengdu
2021 Certification in University Didactics, University of Berne

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

2007–9 high school teacher of Philosophy, Gymnázium Jana Keplera, Prague
Forth. “Better Off Dead: Life Worth Living in Ancient Philosophy”, a popularizing
 piece for Psyche blog (Aeon)

REFERENCES

Brad Inwood
William Lampson Professor of Philosophy and Classics
Department of Classics, Yale University
344 College Street
New Haven CT 06520-8266
brad.inwood@yale.edu

Richard King
Chair of the History of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy, Universität Bern
Länggassstrasse 49a
3012 Bern, Switzerland
richard.king@philo.unibe.ch

Karyn Lynne Lai
Professor of Philosophy
School of Humanities and Languages
University of New South Wales
326 Morven Brown
Sydney NSW 2052, Australia
k.lai@unsw.edu.au

Karel Thein
Professor of Ancient and Early Modern Philosophy
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Faculty of Arts, Charles University
Nám. Jana Palacha 1-2
116 38 Prague, Czech Republic
karel.thein@ff.cuni.cz

David Chai
Associate Professor
Department of Philosophy
Chinese University of Hong Kong
Fung King Hey Building
Hong Kong
david.chai@cuhk.edu.hk