

# Seth David Halvorson, Ph.D.

VISITING ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, PHILOSOPHY

BARD COLLEGE

ANNANDALE-ON HUDSON, NY 12504

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## EDUCATION:

**Columbia University**, New York, NY

**Ph.D.**, Philosophy and Education, October 2006

**M. Phil.**, Ethics, Political, and Social Philosophy, May 2005

**Stanford University**, Stanford, CA

**M.A.**, Education, June 2000

Concentration: Curriculum and Teacher Education, Evaluation, Philosophy of Education

**Macalester College**, St. Paul, MN

**B.A.**, With Honors. Philosophy and History, May 1996

## EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

2023-Current

**[Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure Agency](#), US Department of Homeland Security, [Emergency Communications Division](#), (CISA ECD DHS) Washington, DC**  
Leadership Consultant: Senior and Emerging Managers, Strategic/Tactical Development

**Executive Leadership Educator**, Designed and led leadership seminars using lessons from history and philosophy to support the CISA/DHS ecosystem's mission objectives: address emerging cyber threats, mission critical areas and support and advance mission commitments and values. Designed and facilitated original executive level (private sector: C suite analog) professional development programs and seminars for senior managers and emerging leaders selected through a rigorous department process at programs at Fort McNair/National Defense University. Documented positive impacts improving operations and morale, impacted professional practices and contributed to innovation in civil service leadership development programs.

2022-Current

**Bard College**, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY  
Visiting Associate Professor of Philosophy  
Core Faculty, Language and Thinking

2011-2022

**Bard High School Early College**, Newark, NJ  
Chair, Department of History and Social Sciences  
Associate, Institute for Writing and Thinking  
Associate Professor in History, Philosophy and Political Studies

**Institution Building, Management and Leadership Development, Supporting Innovation:** Adapted core principles and developed and deployed programmatic innovations to meet new needs as the founder of schools and educational programs. Mentored first year college faculty in Mathematics and Engineering, American History, Anthropology. Served on senior search committees and interview boards for Dean of Students and Faculty in History. Consulted on and designed professional development programs focusing on assessment of student work, conflict resolution, differentiating

instruction to meet the needs of students who are housing and food insecure, and best practices in college instruction to first generation college students and adult learners. As senior faculty played a key role communicating and integrating the district teaching evaluation system into programming. Designed, directed, and executed an interdisciplinary collaboration program on best practices in college instruction which resulted in 89% of faculty participation and growth of student performance on state assessments. Directed the development of a student support program for struggling students.

**National, State, and Local Government Relations, Program Development, Assessment, Evaluation, and Accreditation:** Strategy and results focused leader and spokesperson responsible for fielding questions and inquiries to NJ State Department of Education Assessment and Higher Education Accreditation officials and philanthropic site visitors. Designed a multiyear integrated high school and college Social Studies curriculum resulting in 72% of students meeting or exceeding expectations on college readiness exam, (30% higher than state average). Formulated course requirements and deployed a multi-year (Grades 9-12) Humanities and Social Sciences curriculum and faculty collaboration resulting in greater inclusion of previously underrepresented texts and voices. Initiated faculty collaboration programs that shared curricular resources across the humanities and natural and social sciences. As chair, initiated discussion groups and developed school response to COVID-19 pandemic response, focusing on evidence-based interventions to address student and faculty trauma of quarantine and remote learning challenges.

**Program Design and Student Services:** Worked with academic departments and college-wide faculty to design, assess, and bi-annually review academic policies regarding support for at risk students. Assisted with the development of College Writing Center, all resulting in a 25% increase over three years of students completing the A.A. Degree.

**Fundraising, Non-Profit Development, Institution Building, and Stakeholder Relations:** Senior School Leadership Team Member and Founding Faculty of a start-up non-profit educational partnership between Newark Public Schools (NJ) and Bard College, (NY) creating, growing, and maintaining an innovative educational program that has served Newark NJ, for 12 years, Bard High School Early College, Newark. Key spokesperson and liaison during site visits by funders, foundations, local and national members of the media, local, state, and national politicians, and community organizations. Persuasively and clearly communicated mission and core principles, highlighting accomplishments and program innovations to generate resources and support. Designed and executed special event humanities and social science courses during stakeholder and donor site visits that showcased program strengths and successes serving underserved and under-resourced communities. (Percentage Below Poverty in Newark: 21.3% State Percentage: 12.1%)

2011-2016

**Columbia University, New York, NY**

Senior Editor and Project Manager, Digital Humanities Scholarship  
and Teaching in the Core Curriculum

**Project Management, Budget, and Human Resource Management:** Responsible for project design, development, implementation, and evaluation of a global humanities teaching resource and multimedia encyclopedia for faculty and students of Columbia University. Delivered project \$14,000 under budget. Responsible for budgeting, writing, editing, hiring, training, assessment, firing, and oversight of off-site consultants and 20+ member research staff leading to the successful launch of the site. Edited encyclopedia entries covering the biographies, historical context and key arguments in the History of Philosophy, Monotheistic Faith Texts, Ancient, Modern, and Contemporary Philosophy.

2010-2011                    **Columbia University, New York, NY**  
Lecturer, Department of Philosophy

Designed curriculum, formulated course requirements, lectured and administered all grades for “Contemporary Civilization in the West,” a full year course in Columbia College’s Core Curriculum. Earned outstanding reviews and was a finalist for the Presidential Teaching Award.

Spring 2011                **Bard High School Early College, New York, NY**  
Visiting Assistant Professor, Philosophy

Designed curriculum, formulated course requirements, lectured and administered all grades for four Undergraduate courses, through Bard College.

2007- 2009                **The Dragon Academy, Toronto, ON**  
Academic Dean and Professor of Humanities and Social Sciences

**Development and External Relations:** Writer of external grant funding initiative resulting in a multi-year grant to improve the design and delivery of science education leading to the creation of an innovative High School Biology, Chemistry, and Physics program. Consulted on school website redesign and recruitment strategies leading to increased enrollment.

**Senior Academic Dean Responsibilities:** Led school-wide curriculum design, evaluation, and integration across the natural sciences, arts, humanities, and social sciences, resulting in the development of a science department and reforms to practice and curriculum.

**Assessment and Accreditation:** Directed and managed Provincial accreditation documentation and review process, leading to successful accreditation. Met and mentored individual faculty across academic departments to ensure accurate and timely reports of student progress towards mastery.

**Policy Development and Faculty Affairs:** Closely worked with faculty and registrar’s office to improve student transcript and records system. Liaison between parents, faculty, community, and school. Responsible for student recruitment, retention, and development of student support systems. Administered and evaluated professional development programs, recruitment and retention of faculty, and improvement of professional practice.

2004-2007                **Stanford University, Stanford, CA**  
Director of the Advanced Summer Seminar

**Management, Program Design, and Program Development:** Directed and hired instructional staff and taught an advanced seminar in an intensive summer residential institute for advanced high-school students and teachers in policy analysis, debate, and public speaking. Responsible for curriculum design, teaching history, philosophy, and issues in policy analysis. Point person for staff hiring and development, budgeting, and marketing, troubleshooting with various university stakeholders, residential life, food services, university libraries, resulting in an increase in enrollment and excellent performance reviews. Policy analysis focus: Technology, Democracy and Civil Society Studies, Citizenship, and Government.

1993-2007                    **University of Iowa**, Iowa City, IA  
Co-Director, Advanced Summer Seminar in Argumentation

**Management, Program Design, and Program Development:** Co-Directed a residential summer program for high school teachers and students in philosophy, policy analysis and public speaking. Designed courses, built curriculum, and evaluated faculty performance. Responsible for recruitment and marketing outreach, resulting in increasing enrollment. Policy analysis focus: Democracy and Civil Society Studies, Moral and Political Philosophy, Deliberative Democracy.

2000-2003                    **Columbia University**, New York, NY  
Technology Consultant and Project Manager

**Management, Program Design, and Program Development:** Responsible for design, development, implementation, and evaluation of academic department websites. Responsible for budgeting and oversight of off-site consultants, leading to the successful launch of sites for departments in Organization and Leadership and Cultural Studies. Member of four-person development and production team for an online streaming video educational platform for use in Cultural Studies curriculums in Aesthetics and Technology and Gender and Violence at Columbia University. Designed and developed on-line tutorials and educational assessments.

1996-1999                    **Institute of Politics, Harvard University**, Cambridge MA  
Coordinator, Fellows Program

**Leadership Development, Policy Analysis, and Program Administration:** Responsible for coordinating educational programs for members of the U.S. Congress, Governors, Heads of State, Journalists, Mayors, and Political Operatives. Researched, advised, and wrote on public policy issues, international, state, and local problems, and emerging issues in governance. Organized housing, developed academic and social calendar for program participants. Worked closely with senior officials and administrators from across the university.

**Development and External Relations:** Planned and executed large-scale special events and conferences in close cooperation with senior administrators and development offices. Designed and executed fundraising plan for endowed scholarship public service scholarship for undergraduates to pursue careers in government and non-profit sector. Conducted editorial assistance on major Institute publications.

1996                            **Lexington High School**, Lexington, MA  
Debate Coach

Coached runner-up National Champions in US High School Policy Debate. Supervised budget expenditures, served as program administrator and liaison to parents and school administration, instructed students and supervised students at in-state and out-of-state competitions.

**GRANTS:**

2018: Project Director and PI: "Writing and Reading for Citizenship." New York State Courts Historical Society. \$20,000

2008: Principal Researcher and Grant Writer: "Towards an Integrated High School Science Curriculum." Amount: \$20,000/5 Years. AKC Foundation, New York, NY.

**GUEST LECTURES:**

"Can Plato's Meno be Taught?" Faculty of the First Year Seminar, Pedagogy Series, Spring 2023

"Experiencing Discovery" Bard College at Simon's Rock, 2021

"College Pedagogy That Can Actually Differentiate Instruction." BHSEC-Manhattan, 2016

"The Exercise of Formative Justice." American Educational Research Association National Conference, Vancouver, BC, 2012

"Ethics and Discursive Democracy." Invited Lecture, Croatian University Student Argumentation Society, Zagreb, Croatia, April 2012. May 2013.

"Fixing the Child: The Ideologies of Work and Play." Invited Lecture, Newark Trust for Education, 2011.

"Virtú and Fortuna in Machiavelli's Thought." Dean's Hours Lecture, BHSEC, Manhattan, February 17, 2012

"The Communicative Dimensions of Autonomy" Middle Atlantic States Philosophy of Education Society, Columbia University. February 12, 2012

"The Theory of Moral Ecology and Character Education." Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, March 9, 2009.

"Deliberative Democracy in Five Acts." Department of Philosophy, Macalester College, November 1, 2006.

"Formative Justice and the Dynamic of Decline." Philosophy and Education Colloquium, Columbia University. March 30, 2006.

"Equality and Freedom: The Legacy of *Brown* and the Purposes of Public Education in a Multicultural Society." Columbia University. April 2, 2004.

"The Future of Philosophy and Education," Annual Meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society, Toronto, Canada. Spring, 2004.

"Political Identification and Civic Education: The History of the Pledge of Allegiance." Middle Atlantic States Philosophy of Education Society, Rutgers University. December 1, 2001.

**TEACHING AND RESEARCH:**

Leadership through the lenses of History and Philosophy, Politics, Applied Ethics, History of Ideas, Policy Analysis, Ethics and Politics of Care, The Moral and Political Status of Children and Youth, Distributive and Social Justice, Philosophy of Law, Educational Equity, Maintenance Studies, Philosophy and/of Education, Philosophy and/of Humor, Ethics of/in

Science and Technology, Ethics and Politics of Philanthropy, Environmental Philosophy.

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

### **Peer Reviewed:**

"Life and Works of Jean Jacques Rousseau," *Columbia Encyclopedia of Contemporary Civilization*

"The Social Contract" *Columbia Encyclopedia of Contemporary Civilization*

"The Discourses on Inequality," *Columbia Encyclopedia of Contemporary Civilization*

"Life and Works of Thomas Jefferson," *Columbia Encyclopedia of Contemporary Civilization*

"Life and Works of James Madison," *Columbia Encyclopedia of Contemporary Civilization*

"Life and Works of Alexander Hamilton," *Columbia Encyclopedia of Contemporary Civilization*

"Life and Works of John Jay," *Columbia Encyclopedia of Contemporary Civilization*

"Historical Context of The Federalist Papers," *Columbia Encyclopedia of Contemporary Civilization*

"Historical Context of the US Constitution and the Bill of Rights," *Columbia Encyclopedia of Contemporary Civilization*

"Historical Context of the Declaration of Independence," *Columbia Encyclopedia of Contemporary Civilization*

"Argumentation and Advocacy: Teaching Critical Thinking and Public Speaking about Values in Conflict." *National Speech and Debate Association School Curriculum Resources*, (Des Moines, IA) Summer 2016.

"Review of: *Justice and the Eclipse of Liberalism*." *Theory and Research in Education* 2006 4: 232-233.

"Rawls, Historical Knowledge, and the Original Position: A Case for Historical Perspectivism." *Macalester Journal of Philosophy* Spr. 1996, No. 6: p. 12-18.

Editorial Research Assistance in *Campaign for President, The Managers Look at '96*. Hollis, NH: Hollis Publishing, 1997.

## **GENERAL AUDIENCE**

"Parents and the Independent School." *Dialogue*, Spring 2009

"Introduction to Lincoln-Douglas Debate." (with Cherian Koshy), available [here](#).

## **HONORS:**

Outstanding Newark Educator, 2014; 2015.

Finalist: National History Teacher of the Year, 2011.

[Dissertation](#) Awards:

International: Finalist, Kuhmerker Award for

Outstanding Dissertation in Moral Education, Association

for Moral Education, 2007.

Domestic: Finalist, Outstanding Dissertation in Politics and Education, Politics and Education Society, 2007

Finalist: Presidential Teaching Award, Columbia University, 2011.

Distinguished Fellowship in Philosophy and Education, Columbia University: 2004, 2005, 2006.  
Departmental Fellowship, Columbia University: 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003.

University Fellowship, Stanford University: 2000.

Named to the United States Debate Team, 1996  
W. Scott Nobles Prize for outstanding public speaking, 1996.

Collins Prize in Public Speaking: 1993, 1994, 1996.

Grand National Champion, Original Oratory: 1992;

Minnesota State High School Debate Champion: 1991

## **COURSES TAUGHT:**

### **Master's Level**

**U.S. Education Law and Policy**, New York Teaching Fellows Program, Two Classes (Spring, 2004).  
Second Year Master's Level Teacher Certification Program.

**Philosophy of Education: Child and Community**, New York Teaching Fellows Program, Two Classes, (Fall, 2003).  
First Year Master's Level Teacher Certification Program

### **Undergraduate Courses in Philosophy and Politics**

**First Year Seminar**, Bard College, Annandale on Hudson, NY (AY 2022-2023, 2023-2024).

**Philosophy and/of Education**, Bard College, Annandale on Hudson, NY (Fall 2022, 2023).

**Freedom**, Bard College, Annandale on Hudson, NY (Fall 2022).

**Philosophy and Humor**, Bard College, Annandale on Hudson, NY (Spring 2023 Spring 2024).

**Philosophy of Care**, Bard College, Annandale on Hudson, NY (Spring 2023, Fall 2023).

**Tutorial: Revitalizing Democracy**, Bard College, Annandale on Hudson, NY (Fall 2021).

**Introduction to Political Science**, Bard High School Early College, Newark, NJ (Fall Terms 2011-2021).

**Language and Thinking**, Bard College, Annandale on Hudson, NY (Summer Terms, 2016-2019).

**Race, Gender, and Existentialism**, Bard High School Early College, Newark, NJ (Spring 2018).

**Ethics**, Bard High School Early College, Newark NJ, (Spring 2014).

**Argumentation and Advocacy**, Bard High School Early College, Newark, NJ (Spring 2011-2019).

**First Year Seminar in the Humanities**, Bard High School Early College, Newark, NJ (Fall and Spring Terms, 2011-2014).

**Second Year Seminar in the Humanities**, Bard High School Early College, Newark, NJ (Fall and Spring Terms 2015-Current).

**Contemporary Civilization**, Columbia College, Columbia University, New York, NY (2003, 2010-2011).

**Undergraduate Courses in History**

**History of Technology in America**, Bard High School Early College, Newark, NJ (Fall Off Years, 2011-Current).

**US Since 1960**, Bard High School Early College, Newark, NJ (Fall 2011).

**North American Middle and High School History, English, Math and Social Science Courses**

**Grade 9 History of the Americas**, Bard High School Early College, Newark, NJ (2011-2020).

**Grades 7-8 Study Skills, History, Geometry**

**Grade 9 World Geography**

**Grade 10 English**

**Grade 11 Civics and Careers**

**Grade 12 AP European History, AP English Literature, Anthropology, Psychology, Sociology,**

Dragon Academy, Toronto, Ontario Canada, 2007-2010.

**SERVICE:**

2011-2022            Bard Early College Leadership Academic Curriculum Committee  
                         Bard High School Early College Senior Leadership Committee  
                         Commencement Committee  
                         Humanities and Social Science Department Curriculum Working Group on College Standards  
                         Dean of Students Hiring Committee  
                         Tenure Track Hiring Committees: Global History, Latin American History and African History (2)

**MEMBERSHIPS:**

The Maintainers, American Historical Association, New Jersey Historical Association, American Political Science Association, Philosophy of Education Society, Middle Atlantic States Philosophy of Education Society, American Philosophical Association, American Educational Research Association.