

Curriculum Vitae  
**OCTAVIAN GABOR, PhD**  
**Professor of Philosophy**  
**Chair of Arts and Sciences, Methodist College**

**EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. Purdue University, **Philosophy** (August 2011)  
M.A. Balamand University, **Applied Orthodox Theology** (2016)  
M.A. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, **English** (2002)  
M.A. University of Bucharest, **Communication Studies** (1997)  
B.A. University of Bucharest, **Philosophy** (4 years of undergraduate studies, 1996-2000, no thesis)  
B.A. University of Bucharest, **Journalism** (1996)  
St. Stephen **Course of Studies in Orthodox Theology** (2014)

**AREAS OF SPECIALTY:**

Ancient Philosophy, Philosophy and Literature, Philosophical Anthropology

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE:**

Philosophy and Theology, Dostoevsky, Philosophy of Forgiveness

**PUBLICATIONS:**

**Journal Articles and Book Chapters:**

- “Responses to Divine Communication: Oedipus and Sócrates.” *Philosophy and Theology*. May 2020.  
“Re-Creation of Normality in the Absurd Space of Deportations to the Siberian Gulag.” *Vergentis*, 9.2019.  
“Taming the Beast: Constantin Noica and Doing Philosophy in Critical Political Contexts.” *Diálogos*, 2019.  
“Justice between Mercy and Revenge in Sophocles’ *Antigone* and Plato’s *Crito*.” *Lexicon Philosophicum: International Journal for the History of Texts and Ideas*. 6.2019.  
“Communism: The Attempt at Deification without God. Reflections on Andrei Scrima’s Thought.” *The Faith Almanac*, 2019.  
“Nationalismul intre sisteme solare si constelatii.” *The Faith Almanac*, 2019.  
“Two Kinds of Responsibility in *Crime and Punishment*.” *Mundo Eslavo*, vol. 16, 2017.  
“Constantin Noica’s Becoming Within Being and Meno’s Paradox.” *Companion to Classical Reception in Eastern and Central Europe*. Eds. Zara Torlone & Dana Munteanu. Blackwell, 2017.  
“The Use and Intended Outcomes of Presence: A Focus Group Study.” Co-authored with Cherrill Stockmann and Pamela DiVito. Second author. *International Journal of Nursing Knowledge*, 2016.  
“The Sultan and His Janissaries. Gheorghe Hagi and the Golden Era of Galatasaray Istanbul.” *Cultures of Communication*. 1. 2016.  
“Despre Nascatori de Frumos in Inchisorile Comuniste.” *Identitati Sociale, Culturale, Etnice si Religioase in Comunism*. Ed. Cosmin Budeanca. Polirom, 2016.  
“Birth-Givers of Beauty: An Excursion into Finding One’s Given Place within a Constellation.” Introduction to Aspazia Otel Petrescu. *With Christ in Prison*. Reflection Publishing House, 2014.  
“Dialogical Writing in Philosophy and Literature – A Study on Plato’s *Gorgias* and Thomas Love Peacock’s *Nightmare Abbey*.” *Kinesis* 29.2 (2002): 67-84.  
“Adevar si credibilitate in mesajul publicistic de televiziune” (Truth and Credibility in the TV message). *Comunicariile “Hyperion” I*. Bucuresti: Editura Hyperion, 1998, p. 72-4.

**Reviews:**

- Review of Eugenio Refini, *The Vernacular Aristotle. Translation as Reception in Medieval and Renaissance Italy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020. *The Medieval Review*, 2022.
- Review of Paul Contino, *Dostoevsky's Incarnational Realism: Finding Christ among the Karamazovs*. Cascade Books, 2020. *Christianity and Literature*, September 2021.
- Review of Yuri Corrigan, *Dostoevsky and the Riddle of the Self*. Northwestern University Press, 2017. *Religion and Literature Journal*. Notre Dame, Summer 2020.
- Review of Brian A. Butcher, *Liturgical Theology after Schmemmann: An Orthodox Reading of Paul Ricoeur*. Fordham University Press, 2018. *Phenomenological Reviews*, January 2019.
- Review of Constantin Noica, *Pray for Brother Alexander*. Punctum Books, 2018. *Romanian Studies Association of America Journal*. September 2018.
- Review of Martha Nussbaum, *Anger and Forgiveness: Resentment, Generosity, Justice*. Oxford University Press, 2016. *Metaphysiology Online Reviews*, November 2016.
- Review of Michael Davis, *The Soul of the Greeks: and Inquiry*. Chicago, London: University of Chicago Press, 2011. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, May 2012.
- Review of Terence Irwin, "Stoicism: Action, Passion, and Reason" and "Stoicism: Virtue and Happiness." *The Development of Ethics: A historical and Critical Study*. Vol. I-III. Oxford: Oxford University Press. *The Philosophical Forum: A Quarterly*. 42.3 (2011): 279-80.
- Review of Brooke Holmes. *The Symptom and the Subject: The Emergence of the Physical Body in Ancient Greece*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2010. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, March 2011.
- Review of Ronald Polansky, *Aristotle's De Anima*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, September 2009.
- Review of Julie K. Ward, *Aristotle on Homonymy: Dialectic and Science*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, October 2008.

**Translation:**

- Gafencu, Valeriu. *White Lilies*. Edited and Translated from Romanian to English. St. Tikhon Monastery Press, 2022.
- Noica, Constantin. *The Romanian Sentiment of Being*. Translated from Romanian to English together with Elena Gabor. Punctum books, 2022.
- Noica, Constantin. *Pray for Brother Alexander*. Translated from Romanian to English. Punctum books, 2018.
- Monk Moise, ed. *Do Not Avenge Us: Testimonies of Romanians Deported to Siberia*. Translated from Romanian to English. Reflection Publishing, 2016.
- Scrima, André. *Apophatic Anthropology*. Translated from Romanian to English. Gorgias, 2016.
- Fr. Arsenie Boca. *Living Words*. Translated from Romanian to English. Deva: Charisma Publishing House, 2014.
- Jean Servier. *Istoria Utopiei*. Translated from French to Romanian by Octavian Gabor and Elena Gabor. Bucharest: Meridiane, 2000. Original title: L'Histoire de l'utopie.

**WORK IN PROGRESS:****Book:**

*What Can Man Be? Freedom, Responsibility, and Personhood in Dostoevsky.*

**Articles:**

- "Dostoevsky in Romanian Culture: At the Crossroads between East and West," submitted to the volume, *Translating Russian Literature in a Global Context*.
- "The Germs of the Notion of Personhood in Heraclitus and Parmenides."
- "Psyche as the *Mythos* of Tragedy in Aristotle."
- "From Zero to Hero: Gambling and Human Worth."

**INVITED TALKS**

- 30 years since the fall of communism in Eastern Europe. Methodist College, IL, November 14, 2019.
- 30 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall. Eureka College, Eureka, IL, November 8, 2019.
- Taming the Job Market.” Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. April 26, 2019.
- Voices of Romania. Invited to talk about my translation of Constantin Noica's Pray for Brother Alexander. CEERES, University of Chicago, April 9, 2019
- “Communism, the Attempt at Deification without God: Reflections on Andre Scrima’s Thought.” 10th Edition of the Symposium of Orthodox Spirituality. The Divinity of the University of Chicago, September 15, 2018.
- “Constellations and Solar Systems: Reflections on the Meaning of Nationalism.” Celebration of 100 years from the Great Union of Romania. Sacramento, California, September 3, 2018.
- “Knowledge of a Culture Through Dancing.” Round Table at the Center for East-European and Russian/Eurasian Studies at the University of Chicago. March 30, 2018.
- “Birthgivers of Beauty: A Reflection on Suffering and Forgiveness During Communist Persecution.” Ohio State University Newark. November 2013.
- “Particular and Species Souls in Aristotle.” Bradley University. November 2010.
- “Homeric Influences in Aristotle’s Concept of Soul.” Ninth Annual Series of *Illuminations*, Purdue University, November 13, 2007.

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:**

- “The God-Given Freedom of Being a Pawnbroker.” BASEES 2022, Cambridge University, UK, April 8-10 2022.
- “Being întru a language.” MLA 2022.
- “The Line Between Good and Evil in Dostoevsky’s Brothers Karamazov.” ASEEEES, 2020, virtual conference.
- “Aristotle’s Answer to a Non-Aristotelian Question: Individuation.” Society for Ancient Greek Society, Christopher Newport University, November 2019.
- “The Idiot, or the theandricity of the good man.” XVIIth Symposium of the International Dostoevsky Society. Boston University, July, 2019.
- “Trauma, Anger, and Forgiveness in The Brothers Karamazov.” University of Bucharest, June 2019.
- “The Problem of Evil and Zosima’s Responsibility before All.” BASEES. Cambridge University, April 12-14, 2019.
- “Food for Wolves”: Migration as Deportation in the Siberian Gulag.” 4th International Conference “Migration and Refugees in the Law.” Universidad Católica de Murcia. Murcia, Spain, December 12-14, 2018
- “Bursting out in Song: Singing One’s Suffering in the Siberian Gulag.” ASEEEES, Boston, December 6-9.
- “Personhood and Individuality in Dostoevsky.” BASEES. Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, April 13-15.
- “Opposing Communism: Between Rationality and Pragmatism.” BASEES. Cambridge University, April 13-15.
- “Nous as the Actuality of Psyche in Aristotle.” University of Tampa, FL, March 2-4, 2018.
- “Responsibility beyond Morality in Brothers Karamazov.” ASEEEES, Chicago, November 9-11.
- “Non-Transactional Forgiveness in Crime and Punishment.” Central Slavic Conference, Saint Louis, October 20-22.
- “The Rediscovery of the Self Through Pregnancy: Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment and the Theandric Nature of a Human Being.” 19th Annual International Conference of the English Department. University of Bucharest, Romania, June 8-10, 2017
- “Producers and Consumers: Plato’s The Sophist.” University of South Florida, March 3-5, 2017.

- “The Rediscovery of Healing in an Oppressive System.” Conference on Exploring Experiences of Repression in the Soviet Union and Communist Eastern Europe. Leeds Beckett University, Leeds, UK.
- “Teaching Communism Through the Lenses of Suffering and Forgiveness.” MLA 2017 conference, Philadelphia, January, 2017.
- “Psyche: The Actuality of Matter or of a Particular Natural Body.” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy. Fordham University, October 28-30, 2016.
- “Crime and Punishment and the Philosophy of Human Soul.” Crime and Punishment at 150. University of British Columbia, Canada, 20-22 October 2016.
- “Two Kinds of Responsibility in Crime and Punishment.” XVIth Symposium of the International Dostoevsky Society. Granada, Spain, 7-10 June 2016.
- “Two Ways of Responding to an Oracle.” University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida. March 2016.
- “Knowing Virtue by having a Relationship with It: A Study of the *Meno*.” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy. Fordham University, New York October 23-25, 2015.
- “Nascatori de Frumos in Timpul Persecutiei Comuniste” (Birthgivers of beauty during Communist Persecution). *IICCMER (Institute for the Investigation of the Crimes or Communism and the Memory of Romanian Exile)*. Annual meeting. Sambata de Sus, Romania. July 7-10, 2014.
- “Mercy and Justice in Eastern Orthodoxy and Levinas.” *North American Levinas Society Annual Meeting*. Duquesne University, July 28-31, 2013.
- “The Plot as the *Psyche* of Tragedy.” *Symposium: The Poetics in Its Aristotelian Context*. Ohio State University. April 7-8, 2013.
- “Platonic Philosophy and Its Public Character: A Study on the *Meno*.” *The Performance of Culture in Ancient Greece*. USF, Tampa, Florida. February 2013.
- “Education, Sacrifice and Idolatry in Sophocles’ *Antigone* and Plato’s *Crito*.” AFGLC/ICHS conference, History, Tragedy, Philosophy. Tampa, Florida, February 24-25, 2012.
- “*Nous* in Aristotle as the First Actuality of *Psyche*.” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy. Fordham University, October 21-23, 2011.
- “Levinas’ Ethics and Eastern Orthodoxy.” *North American Levinas Society Annual Meeting*. Texas A&M University, May 1-3, 2011.
- “Species Souls and Particular Souls.” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy for the APA Central Division. Chicago, February 17-20, 2010.
- “Soul and Body as Formulas in Aristotle.” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy. Fordham University, October 24-26, 2008.
- “Between Freedom, Responsibility, the Common Good, and Idolatry: An Essay on Plato’s *Republic*.” Common Good Conference. University of Notre Dame, The Nanovic Institute for European Studies, October 9-11, 2008.
- “Plato and Levinas on the Otherwise than Being.” *North American Levinas Society Annual Meeting*. Seattle University, August 31 – September 2 2008.
- “Reading Midrashically: Derrida, Kierkegaard, Literature, and Genesis 22.” The Akedah in Medieval Monotheism. 43 International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI, May 8-11, 2008.
- “The Erotic and the Ethical in Plato and Levinas.” *North American Levinas Society Annual Meeting*. Purdue University, June 10-12, 2007.
- Comments on Priscilla Sakezles, University of Akron, “Aristotle’s Determinism and Stoic Eternal Recurrence.” *Ancient Philosophy Society Annual Meeting*. Boston College, April 12-14, 2007.
- “Emmanuel Levinas: Useless Suffering.” Workshop organized with Prof. Ann Astell, Prof. Sandor Goodhart, Dara Hill, Kathryn Ludwig, Michael R. Michau, Sol Neely, Rebecca Nicholson-Weir, Monica Osborne. *Greater Lafayette Holocaust Remembrance Conference*, 2006.

- “Otherwise than Philosophy.” *North American Levinas Society* Annual Meeting. Purdue University, May 13-15, 2006.
- “*Aporia* or Understanding Virtue: A Study in *Meno*’s paradox.” *Society for Student Philosophers*. Grand Valley State University, October 1-2, 2005.
- “The (Im)possibility of Akrasia.” *Illinois Philosophical Association*. 2004 Meeting. Loyola University in Chicago, November 5-6, 2004.
- “Dialogue in Philosophy and Literature. A study on Plato’s *Gorgias* and Peacock’s *Nightmare Abbey*.” *Building Bridges*. Philosophy Graduate Student Conference at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, November 15-17, 2002.
- “The *Gorgias*: ‘First at a Feast, Last at Fray.’” *Illinois Philosophical Association*. 2002 Meeting. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. November 1-2, 2002.

#### **FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS:**

- 2012 TEC Conference/Workshop Award, Travel Grant for participating at AFGLC/ICHS conference, History, Tragedy, Philosophy. Tampa, Florida, February 24-25, 2012.
- 2008 Purdue Research Foundation Dissertation Fellowship.
- 2003 Lynn Fellowship for interdisciplinary study, Purdue University.

#### **AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION:**

- RESEARCH FELLOW AT THE FAGARAS RESEARCH INSTITUTE ROMANIA
- PRESIDENT OF PEORIA AREA WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL (AUGUST 2021 – JULY 2022)
- CHAIRING A PAPER AT THE OXFORD CONFERENCE, ARISTOTLE’S BIOLOGY AND CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY IN THE EARLY EMPIRE, OXFORD, JANUARY 10-12, 2019.
- ORGANIZED PANEL ON CULTURE IN COMMUNIST PRISONS AND CONCENTRATION CAMPS, ASEEEES, BOSTON, DECEMBER 6-9.
- BOARD MEMBER AT NORTH AMERICAN LEVINAS SOCIETY.
- BOARD MEMBER OF DOSTOEVSKY READERS ADVISORY BOARD

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

- Professor at Methodist College (Fall 2019 – present)
- Associate Professor at Methodist College (Fall 2014)
- Assistant Professor at Methodist College (Fall 2012 – Spring of 2014)

#### **SERVICE:**

- Course on Suffering and Forgiveness during the Communist Persecution for OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Bradley University)
- Committees: Scholarship and research; Program Review and Assessment; Diversity; Service Learning Across the Curriculum; Admission, Progression and Retention; Travel; Values In Action; Social Events (all Methodist College)
- Chair of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee (Methodist College)
- Moderator of the session “Levinas and the Political.” NALS 2013.
- Commentator of “Diversification in Aristotle’s Metaphysics.” Ancient Philosophy Society Annual Conference. Notre Dame, 2013.
- Chair at the APA Central 2009 for the paper: Martin J. Henn, "An Aristotelian Solution to the Paradox of Moral Luck."
- Member of the Executive Board and co-founder of the North American Levinas Society.

- Co-organizer of the first and second Annual Conferences of the North American Levinas Society, May 2006 and June 2007.
- Referee for the Society of Student Philosophers.

**OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES:**

- Greek reading groups with undergraduate students at Bradley University and Methodist College.
- Participant, *Liberty Fund Colloquium*. One week of discussions on the Philosophy of Adam Smith. Holland, Michigan, August 2003
- Participated in Greek reading groups at Virginia Tech (led by Dr. Mark Gifford) and at Purdue University (led by Dr. Patricia Curd).