

E. Brown Dewhurst

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Home: Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
Evangelisch-Theologische Fakultät
Lehrstuhl für Kirchengeschichte
Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1
80539 München

Areas of Specialisation

Greek Patristics; Christian Ethics; Byzantine Theology; Virtue Ethics; Byzantine Philosophy;
Environmental Ethics; Bioethics; Early Church Doctrine; Early Church History

Areas of Competence

Anarchist Theory; Meta-ethics; Ancient Philosophy; Eastern Orthodox Theology; Early Modern and
Contemporary Political Philosophy; Medieval European History

Research

My research focuses on the relevance of Early Christian Greek and Eastern Roman theology for topics in contemporary Christian ethics. I have worked extensively in virtue ethics, environmental ethics, bioethics, and anarchist theory. My current research is on the absence of sex and gender in early Eastern Roman Theology, looking at this theological position in Maximus the Confessor and Gregory of Nyssa, and surveying its possible influence on recorded instances of gender fluidity in 4th-7th century Byzantine monasticism. I will also be looking at the relevance of these findings for contemporary theological ethics especially in gender and LGBTQ+ studies. My doctoral thesis looked at the cosmological place of virtue within the works of Maximus the Confessor. I suggested ways in which Maximus' ethics could help set up a stronger meta-ethical framework for philosophical virtue ethics, and focused specifically on how his theology can help inform ethics by demonstrating a critique of the nation state.

EMPLOYMENT

Aug 2019 – Jan 2022 **Post-Doctoral Research Fellow**, Evangelisch-Theologische Fakultät, Ludwig-Maximilians Universität München
Sept 2018 – Sept 2019 **Adjunct Lecturer (Lehrauftrager)**, Munich School of Ancient Philosophy, Ludwig-Maximilians Universität München
Nov 2017 – July 2018 **Teaching Fellow**, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh
Sept 2014 – Aug 2017 **Associate Lecturer**, Lindisfarne Regional Training Partnership (accredited with Durham University)
Sept 2014 – Aug 2015 **Postgraduate Teaching Assistant**, Dept. Theology & Religion, Durham University

EDUCATION

2013-2017 **Doctorate in Theology (PhD)**
Durham University, England
Classification: Passed
Thesis: *Revolution in the Microcosm: Love and Virtue in the Cosmological Ethics of St Maximus the Confessor*
Supervisors: Dr Krastu Banev, Prof. Robert Song
Examiners: Prof. Andrew Louth, Prof. Torstein Tollefsen

2012- 2013

Master of Theology (MTh) by Research Ecclesiastical History

University of Edinburgh, Scotland

Classification: Distinction

Dissertation: *Relation in the Ethics of St Maximus' Logoi: A Contribution towards the Study of Ethics and the Cosmology of St Maximus the Confessor*

Research topics included: St Maximus the Confessor and ecology, St John of Damascus and contemporary aesthetics, St Gregory Palamas' Divine Energies

Supervisors: Dr Sara Parvis, Dr Paul Parvis, Prof. Michael Northcott

2008- 2012

Master of Arts (MA) with Honours Divinity and History

University of Edinburgh, Scotland

Classification: First class (1st)

Dissertation: *Revolutionary Epektasis: The Radical Challenge of Life in Theosis*

Supervisors: Dr Paul Parvis, Prof. Michael Northcott

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles:

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'Beyond the Borders of Society: Sex and Gender as Tropos in Maximus the Confessor's Theology and Its Relevance to Contemporary Ethics.' *Theology & Sexuality*. (2022). DOI: 10.1080/13558358.2022.203358

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'The Absence of Sexual Difference in the Theology of Maximus the Confessor' *Philosophy and Society*. Vol. 32, No. 2 (2021): 204-225.

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'On the Soul and the Cyberpunk Future: St Macrina, St Gregory of Nyssa and Contemporary Mind/Body Dualism.' *Studies in Christian Ethics*. Vol. 33 (4) (2020): 443-462.

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'Three Practical Ways of Thinking About Virtue in Maximus the Confessor's Cosmic and Ascetic Theology' in *Studia Patristica Vol 100*. Houghton, H.A.G., Davies, M.L., & Vinzent, M. (eds.) Leuven: Peeters, (2020): 273-280.

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'The 'Divisions of Nature' in Maximus' Ambiguum 41?' in *Studia Patristica Vol LXXV*. Leuven: Peeters, (2017): 149-154.

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'How Can We Be Nothing? The Concept of Nonbeing in Athanasius and Maximus the Confessor' in *Analogia: The Pemptousia Journal for Theological Dialogue*. Vol. 2, Issue 1 (2017): 29-34.

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'The Ontology of Virtue as Participation in Divine Love in the Works of St. Maximus the Confessor.' *Forum Philosophicum* 20, no. 2 (2015): 157–169.

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'The Cosmology of St Maximus the Confessor as a Basis for Ecological and Humanitarian Ethics' in *Teologikon* 3. (2014), 126-140.

Book Chapters:

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'Love and Annihilation: Becoming Human in the thought of St Maximus the Confessor and Lessons from Contemporary Anarchism' in *Orthodoxy and Anarchy*. (Forthcoming).

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'Byzantine Theology and its Philosophical Insights for Transhumanist and Transgender Understandings of the Body' in *Eastern Christian Approaches to Philosophy*. Palgrave (Forthcoming).

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'Apothiasism in the Search for Knowledge: Love as a Key Difference in Neoplatonic and Christian Epistemology' in *Platonism and Christian Thought in Late Antiquity*. Pavlos, P.G., Janby, L.F., Emilsson, E.K., and Tollefsen, T.T. (eds.) 239-257. London: Routledge, 2019.

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'To Each According to their Needs: Anarchist Praxis as a Resource for Byzantine Theological Ethics' in *Essays in Anarchism and Religion. Vol II*. Christoyannopoulos, A. & Adams, M. (eds.) 58-93. Stockholm University Press, 2018.

Edited Books:

Maximus' Opuscula. Cvetović, V., Leonas, A. & Brown Dewhurst, E. (eds.) (Brepols: Forthcoming)

Book Reviews:

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'Book Review: D. Džalto, Anarchy and the Kingdom of God: From Eschatology to Orthodox Political Theology and Back' *Religion, State & Society* (Forthcoming).

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'Book Review: D. Harper, The Analogy of Love: St Maximus the Confessor and the Foundations of Ethics' *Studies in Christian Ethics* 35:2 (2022): 386-9.

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'Book Review: Anonymous, Total Liberation. Croatia: Active Distribution & London: Signal Fire; 2019.' *Anarchist Studies* 29:2 (2021): 121-3.

E. Brown Dewhurst, 'Space-Time in the 7th Century: Book Review: S. Mitralaxis, Ever-Moving Repose: A Contemporary Reading of Maximus the Confessor's Theory of Time. James Clarke & Co, 2018.' *The Expository Times* 130:6 (2019), 280-281.

E. C. J. Brown, 'Book Review: Toward an Ecology of Transfiguration: Orthodox Christian Perspectives on Environment, Nature and Creation.' Chryssavgis, J. & Foltz, B. (eds.), Fordham: Fordham University Press, 2013.' *Sobornost* 36:2 (2015), 90-5.

INVITED SPEAKER

- 4th Feb 2020 'The Absence of Sex and Gender in the Thought of Maximus the Confessor: A Seventh Century Challenge to Gender Norms', Gender Research Lab for the Institute of Philosophy and Social Theory (University of Belgrade, Belgrade)
- 28th May- 4th June 2017 'The Cosmic Dimension of Virtue: Holistic Ethics in the Thought of St Maximus the Confessor', *The Metochi Seminar: Transformation in Response to Climate Change - an Interdisciplinary Dialogue* (University of Agders Metochi Study Centre, Lesbos)
- 7th-9th Dec 2016 'Crisis in the Microcosm: The Ethical Challenge of Byzantine Cosmic Theology' *UCSIA International Workshop: Sustainable Development And The Contribution Of Church Communities* (University of Antwerp, Antwerp)
- 14th Nov 2015 'Creation as Microcosm: Maximus the Confessor as a Response to Environmental Ethics', *Theology, Science and the Environment: Human Beings in Context'*, *The Albertus Institute for Science, Knowledge and Religion* (University of Edinburgh,

Edinburgh)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Sept 2018 – Sept 2019 **Course Manager, Lecturer & Course Designer**, *Neoplatonism in Late Antique Christianity [10000]*, Ludwig-Maximilians Universität München (Level 10)
- 12th-14th Jan 2018 **Visiting Lecturer**, ‘*Early Church Theology as a Resource for Ethics Today*’ Residential Weekend Lectures, Lindisfarne Regional Training Partnership, Emmaus Village, Consett
- Jan 2018 **First Marker**, *Economy, Ecology and Ethics [THET11034]*, University of Edinburgh (Level 11)
- Jan 2018 **First Marker**, *Economy, Ethics and Theology [THET10041]*, University of Edinburgh (Level 10)
- Sept 2017 – Aug 2018 **Course Manager, Lecturer & Course Designer**, *Christian Ethics [THET11008]*, University of Edinburgh (Level 11)
- Sept 2017 – Aug 2018 **Course Manager, Lecturer & Course Designer**, *Christian Ethics [THET10007]*, University of Edinburgh (Level 10)
- Sept 2016 – Aug 2017 **Course Organiser, Lecturer & Course Designer**, *Environmental Theology [TMM3217]*, Lindisfarne Regional Training Partnership, Accredited by Durham University (Level 10)
- Sept 2014 – Aug 2015 **Postgraduate Teaching Assistant**, *Topics in Christian Ethics [THEO2381]*, Durham University (Level 10)
- Sept 2014 – June 2015 **Course Organiser, Lecturer & Course Designer**, *Environmental Theology [TMM3217]*, Lindisfarne Regional Training Partnership Accredited by Durham University (Level 10)

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 5th-9th July 2021 ‘Non-Binary Identity in Late Antique Byzantine Theology’, *Leeds International Medieval Congress 2020*. (University of Leeds; Online)
- 10th-14th June 2020 ‘How Can We Be Free?: The Jeopardy of Free Will When Being is Tied to Goodness in Byzantine Philosophy’, *18th Annual Conference of International Society of Neoplatonic Studies*. (Athens) [POSTPONED DUE TO CORONA OUTBREAK]
- 19th-24th Aug 2019 ‘Asexuality in the Theology of Maximus the Confessor: A Seventh Century Challenge to Gender Norms’, *XVIIIth International Conference on Patristic Studies*. (University of Oxford)
- 5th-7th Sept 2018 ‘Gregory of Nyssa on the Soul and the Cyberpunk Future’, *Seventh British Patristics Conference*. (Cardiff University)
- 2nd-3rd Dec 2016 ‘Knowledge as a Relationship of Impossibility and Intimacy in Maximus the Confessor’, *International Workshop in Oslo on the Philosophy of Late Antiquity: Platonism and Christian Thought in Late Antiquity*. (Department of Philosophy, University of Oslo)
- 5th-7th Sept 2016 ‘An Ethics of Unity and Distinction: Love in Maximus’ Cosmic and Ascetic Theology’, *The Sixth British Patristics Conference*. (University of Birmingham)
- 22nd-27th Aug 2016 ‘How Can We Be Nothing? The Concept of Nonbeing in Athanasius and Maximus the Confessor’, *23rd International Congress of Byzantine Studies* (Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Belgrade)
- 21st-22nd April 2016 ‘Demanding the Impossible – Reaching for the Divine: Anarchist Living and the Theology of Maximus the Confessor’, *2016 Society for the Study of Christian Ethics Postgraduate Conference: Christian Hope: Embodying the Resurrection in the World Today* (Abbey House, Durham University)
- 4th - 6th Sept 2015 “Φιλάλληλόν τε καὶ συμπαθὲς προσκαλεῖται” (Called to Mutual Love

	and Sympathy): A Critique of the State in Light of Gregory of Nyssa's Sermon on Mercy', <i>Society for the Study of Christian Ethics Annual Conference 2015: Power and the Limits of Power</i> (Westcott House, University of Cambridge)
10 th -14 th Aug 2015	'The "Divisions of Nature" in Maximus' Ambiguum 41?', <i>XVIIth International Conference on Patristic Studies</i> . (Examination Schools, University of Oxford)
19 th June 2015	'A Return to Class Discourse: Hermeneutical Injustice and the Language of Social Mobility', <i>Rags to Riches?: Experiences of Social Mobility</i> . (The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities, Oxford) [Joint paper with Jonathan Lee, Philosophy Dept, University of Edinburgh]
4 th Dec 2014	'The Ontology of Virtue as Participation in Divine Love in the Works of St Maximus the Confessor', <i>Durham Patristic Seminar</i> (Ustinov College, University of Durham)
26 th -28 th Sept 2014	'The Ontology of Virtue as Participation in Divine Love in the works of St Maximus the Confessor', <i>Maximus the Confessor as a European Philosopher: International Colloquium</i> (Freie Universität, Berlin)
3 rd -5 th Sept 2014	'The Ontology of Virtue in St Maximus the Confessor's Cosmology', <i>The Fifth British Patristics Conference</i> (Queen Mary, University of London)
14 th -15 th April 2014	'The Concept of Love in Byzantine Asceticism as a Radical Critique of National Borders', <i>Society for the Study of Christian Ethics Postgraduate Conference</i> (School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh)
3 rd May 2013	'The Cosmology of St Maximus the Confessor as a Basis for Ecological and Humanitarian Justice', <i>Ar.tic.u.late: New College Postgraduate Conference</i> (School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh)
4 th Dec 2012	'Radical Reflections: Theosis of the Image', <i>Society for the Study of Theology Postgraduate Conference</i> (Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge)

COLLOQUIUMS

3 rd -4 th Feb 2020	<i>International Colloquium on Saint Maximus the Confessor's 'Opuscula theologica et polemica'</i> . (University of Belgrade, Belgrade)
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AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Aug 2019- Jan 2022	Incoming LMU Fellowship (European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Grant Agreement No. 754388)
April 2016	MA and PhD Legacy Award for Overseas Research
July 2014	Fellowship of St Sergius and St Alban's Grant
Sept 2013- Sept 2016	Durham AHRC Doctoral Scholarship
Sept 2013	Edinburgh College of Humanities and Social Science Studentship (£47,000) [Declined to accept Durham AHRC Doctoral Scholarship]
Sept 2013	Edinburgh School of Divinity Doctoral Scholarship [Declined to accept Durham AHRC Doctoral Scholarship]
Sept 2012- Aug 2013	Edinburgh School of Divinity Post-Graduate Scholarship

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

June 2017	Durham Safeguarding CPD Certification
Oct 2014	Durham Postgraduate Teacher Induction Course

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2019-2020	Dictionary Contributor , two articles contributed to <i>Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church 4e</i> (ed. Andrew Louth): Creation; Ecology.
Jan 2019- July 2019	Reading Group Convenor , Munich Byzantine Theology Reading Group
Feb 2015- June 2016	Postgraduate Member , Ethics Committee for the Dept. Theology and Religion, Durham University
9 th June 2014	Conference Organiser , <i>Living in the Cosmos: Ethical and Ascetic Reflections on Patristic and Contemporary Theology</i> , Durham University
Nov 2013-	Primary Contributor , Microcosmology: Meditations on the Person in the Byzantine and Patristic Tradition Blog
Sept 2012-Aug 2018	Reading Group Convenor , Edinburgh Byzantine Theology Reading Group

LANGUAGES

French	<u>Reading</u> : Competent; <u>Writing</u> : Competent; <u>Speaking</u> : Competent <u>Qualification</u> : GCSE
Ancient Greek	<u>Reading</u> : Competent <u>Qualification</u> : Studied at UG and PG level
Latin	<u>Reading</u> : Competent <u>Qualification</u> : A Level

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

May 2018-	Member , International Association of Byzantine Studies
Oct 2017-	Founding Member , Christian Patristics and Anarchist Research Network
Sept 2017-19	Freelance Website Designer , Hydrology.UK (Experience coding in HTML, XHTML, CSS, and JavaScript)
Sept 2012-	Member , Academics and Students Interested in Religious Anarchism (ASIRA)
Sept 2012-	Member , Anarchist Studies Network (ASN)
2012-	Member , North East Permaculture Network
2012- 2014	Office Bearer , Edinburgh Orthodox Christian Student Society
2012-	Member , Society for the Study of Christian Ethics (SSCE)
2012-	Founding Member and Website Creator , Bewcastle House of Prayer Project
2011-2012	Convener , Edinburgh University Anglican Society
2009- 2014	Office Bearer , Edinburgh University Anarchist Society
2009-2014	Music Teacher , Trumpet and Music Theory

REFEREES

Available on request.

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