

# Gregg D. Caruso

Corning Community College (SUNY)  
1 Academic Drive.  
Corning, New York 14830

Home: (607) 973-2285  
Cell: (917) 348-2926  
Email: greggcaruso@yahoo.com  
Webpage: www.greggcaruso.com

---

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy (2011)  
M.Phil. in Philosophy (2002)  
B.A. in Philosophy (1996)  
A.A.S. in Music (1995)

City University of New York, Graduate School and University Center  
City University of New York, Graduate School and University Center  
William Paterson University  
Nassau Community College

---

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

**AOS:** Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mind, and Applied Ethics (with a particular interest in free will, moral responsibility, and criminal punishment)

**AOC:** Cognitive Science, Social and Political, Philosophy of Religion, Public Policy

---

## TEACHING POSITIONS

Associate Professor of Philosophy (2013-present), Corning Community College (SUNY)  
Chair of Humanities Department (2008-2014), Corning Community College (SUNY)  
Assistant Professor of Philosophy (Tenured) (2009-2012), Corning Community College (SUNY)  
Instructor of Philosophy (2006-2009), Corning Community College (SUNY)  
Substitute Instructor (2005-2006), Brooklyn College CUNY, Philosophy Department  
Writing Fellow (2003-2005), John Jay College of Criminal Justice CUNY, Philosophy Department  
Graduate Teaching Fellow (2000-2003), Brooklyn College, Philosophy Department

---

## PUBLICATIONS

### Authored Books:

Caruso, Gregg D. (2012). *Free Will and Consciousness: A Determinist Account of the Illusion of Free Will*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

Caruso, Gregg D. (in progress). *Unjust Deserts: Free Will, Moral Responsibility, and Criminal Punishment*.

### Edited Collections:

Caruso, Gregg D. (ed.) (2013). *Exploring the Illusion of Free Will and Moral Responsibility*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

Caruso, Gregg D. (ed.) (2014). *Science and Religion: 5 Questions*. London: Automatic Press/VIP.

Caruso, Gregg D., and Owen Flanagan. (eds.) (2017). *Neuroexistentialism: Meaning, Morals, and Purpose in the Age of Neuroscience*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Caruso, Gregg D. (ed.) (in progress). *Ted Honderich on Consciousness, Determinism, and Humanity*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Caruso, Gregg D. (ed.) (in progress). *Handbook on Philosophy and Public Policy*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

## Journal Articles and Book Chapters:

Gregg D. Caruso (in progress). "Skepticism about Moral Responsibility," *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.

Gregg D. Caruso (in progress). "Consciousness, Free Will, and Moral Responsibility," in *The Routledge Handbook of Consciousness*, ed. Rocco J. Gennaro. London: Routledge.

Gregg D. Caruso (forthcoming). "Origination, Moral Responsibility, and Life-Hopes: Ted Honderich on Determinism and Freedom," in *Ted Honderich on Consciousness, Determinism, and Humanity*, ed. Gregg D. Caruso. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Gregg D. Caruso (forthcoming). "Free Will Skepticism and Its Implications: An Argument for Optimism," in *Free Will Skepticism in Law and Society*, ed. Elizabeth Shaw and Derk Pereboom. Cambridge University Press.

Derk Pereboom & Gregg D. Caruso (forthcoming). "Hard-Incompatibilist Existentialism: Neuroscience, Punishment, and Meaning in Life" in *Neuroexistentialism: Meaning, Morals, and Purpose in the Age of Neuroscience*, eds. Gregg D. Caruso and Owen Flanagan. New York: Oxford University Press.

Owen Flanagan & Gregg D. Caruso (forthcoming). "Neuroexistentialism: Third-Wave Existentialism," in *Neuroexistentialism: Meaning, Morals, and Purpose in the Age of Neuroscience*, eds. Gregg D. Caruso and Owen Flanagan. New York: Oxford University Press.

Gregg D. Caruso and Stephen G. Morris (2016). "Compatibilism and Retributive Desert Moral Responsibility: On What Is of Central Philosophical and Practical Importance." *Erkenntnis*. DOI 10.1007/s10670-016-9846-2

Gregg D. Caruso (2016). "Free Will Skepticism and the Question of Creativity: Creativity, Desert, and Self-Creation." *Ergo*.

Gregg D. Caruso (2016). "Moral Responsibility and the Strike Back Emotion: Comments on Bruce Waller's *The Stubborn System of Moral Responsibility*." *Syndicate Philosophy* 1 (1): August 2016.

Gregg D. Caruso (2016). "Free Will Skepticism and Criminal Behavior: A Public Health-Quarantine Model," *Southwest Philosophy Review* 32 (1): 25-48. [Presidential Address to the Southwestern Philosophical Society.]

Gregg D. Caruso (2015). "Free Will Eliminativism: Reference, Error, and Phenomenology" *Philosophical Studies* 172 (10): 2823-2833.

Gregg D. Caruso (2015). "If consciousness is necessary for moral responsibility, then people are less responsible than we think," *Journal of Consciousness Studies* 22 (7-8): 49-60.

Gregg D. Caruso (2015). "Précis of Neil Levy's *Consciousness and Moral Responsibility*," *Journal of Consciousness Studies* 22 (7-8): 7-15.

Gregg D. Caruso (2015). "Kane is Not Able: A Reply to Vicens' 'Self-Forming Actions and Conflicts of Intention'," *Southwest Philosophy Review* 31, 2.

Gregg D. Caruso (2014). "Précis of Derk Pereboom's *Free Will, Agency, and Meaning in Life*," *Science, Religion and Culture* 1, 3: 178-201. [Part of a book symposium w/Derk Pereboom, John Martin Fisher, and Dana Nelkin.]

Gregg D. Caruso (2014). "(Un)just Deserts: The Dark Side of Moral Responsibility," *Southwest Philosophy Review* 30, 1: 27-38.

Gregg D. Caruso (2013). "Introduction: Exploring the Illusion of Free Will and Moral Responsibility," in *Exploring the Illusion of Free Will and Moral Responsibility*, ed. Gregg D. Caruso, Lanham, MD: Lexington Books: 1-16.

Gregg D. Caruso (2012). "The Folk Psychology of Free Will: An Argument against Compatibilism," *Kriterion: Journal of Philosophy* 26: 56-89.

Gregg D. Caruso (2011). "Compatibilism and the Folk Psychology of Free Will," in *An Anthology of Philosophical Studies, Vol. V*, ed. Patricia Hanna, Athens, Greece: ATINER: 215-226.

Gregg D. Caruso (2008). "Consciousness and Free Will: A Critique of the Argument from Introspection," *Southwest Philosophy Review* 24, 1: 219-231.

Gregg D. Caruso (2007). "Realism, Naturalism, and Pragmatism: A Closer Look at the Views of Quine and Devitt," *Kriterion: Journal of Philosophy* 21: 64-83.

Gregg D. Caruso (2005). "Sensory States, Consciousness, and the Cartesian Assumption," in *Descartes and Cartesianism*, eds. Nathan Smith and Jason Taylor, Cambridge Scholars Press: 177-199.

### **Book Reviews:**

Gregg D. Caruso (2016). "Review of Bruce Waller's *Restorative Free Will*," *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*.

Gregg D. Caruso (2002). "A Review of David Cockburn's *An Introduction to the Philosophy of Mind*," *Metapsychology* 6, 26.

Gregg D. Caruso (2001). "A Review of Nicholas Humphrey's *How to Solve the Mind-Body Problem*," *Philosophical Writings* 18, Autumn: 51-53. Reprinted in *Metapsychology* 5, 46 (2001).

### **Other:**

"Arrested Development," *RSA Journal (Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce)*, Issue 2 (2016): 42-46.

"Preface" in *Neuroexistentialism*, ed. Gregg D. Caruso and Owen Flanagan, New York: OUP.

"Science, Religion and Culture: New Beginnings," *Science, Religion and Culture* 1:1 (2014): 1-3.

"Preface" and "Introduction" in *Science and Religion: 5 Questions*, ed. Gregg D. Caruso, London: Automatic Press/VIP, 2014.

Co-author (with David M. Rosenthal), "Bibliography 1971-2000," in *Materialism and the Mind-Body Problem*, revised edition, ed. David M. Rosenthal, Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Co., 2000.

### **Popular Media Articles:**

"Moral Responsibility and the Strike Back Emotion: Where does the belief in moral responsibility come from?" *Psychology Today*. February 21, 2016.

"Justice Without Retribution: Retributivism, Mass Incarceration, and Free Will Skepticism," *Psychology Today*. December 14, 2015.

"Neuroscientific Prediction and Free Will," *Psychology Today*. October 26, 2015.

"Does Disbelief in Free Will Increase Anti-Social Behavior?" *Psychology Today*. October 16, 2015.

"Was Stephen Jay Gould Right?," *RealClearReligion*. April 23, 2014.

"Free Will Skepticism and Its Implications: An Argument for Optimism (Parts I & II)," *Scientia Salon*, December 22-23, 2014.

## PAPER PRESENTATIONS

### Conferences:

“Basic Desert, Retribution, and the Public Health-Quarantine Model,” Pacific APA, April 12-15, 2017. Seattle, Washington. [Panel discussion with Derk Pereboom and Katrina Sifferd]

“Why Free Will Skepticism is Not a Threat to Human Dignity,” Future of Human Dignity Conference, October 11-12, 2016. Utrecht, Netherlands. [Panel discussion with Saul Smilansky and John Lemos]

“Free Will Skepticism and Criminal Behavior: A Public Health-Quarantine Model,” 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Justice Without Retribution Conference, June 3-5, 2016. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

“Free Will Skepticism and the Question of Creativity: Creativity, Desert, and Self-Creation,” Central APA Annual Meeting, March 2-5, 2016. Chicago, IL. [With commentaries by Robert Kane and Oisín Deery.]

“Origination, Moral Responsibility, Punishment, and Life-Hopes: Ted Honderich on Determinism and Freedom,” Conference in honor of Ted Honderich organized by the Royal Institute of Philosophy. February 9, 2016. London.

“Free Will Skepticism and Criminal Behavior: A Public Health-Quarantine Model,” 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Philosophical Society, November 6-8, 2015. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.

“Free Will Skepticism and Its Implications: An Argument for Optimism,” Justice Without Retribution Conference, April 2-3, 2015. University of Aberdeen School of Law, Scotland.

“If consciousness is necessary for moral responsibility, then people are less responsible than we think,” Central APA Annual Meeting, February 19, 2015, St. Louis. [Session dedicated to Neil Levy’s *Consciousness and Moral Responsibility*.]

“Free Will Eliminativism: Reference, Error, and Phenomenology,” Free Will Conference sponsored by The Center for Cognition and Neuroethics, October 10-11, 2014. Insight Institute of Neurosurgery and Neuroscience, Flint, MI.

“(Un)just Deserts: The Dark Side of Moral Responsibility,” 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Philosophical Society, November 8, 2013. Fredericksburg, TX. [As part of a plenary session on moral responsibility with Bruce Waller and Benjamin Vilhauer.]

“The Folk Psychology of Free Will: An Argument against Compatibilism,” 5th Annual International Conference on Philosophy sponsored by The Philosophical Research Unit of the Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER) in Athens, Greece (May 31-June 3, 2010).

“The Divided Self as the Root of Our Ecological Crisis,” Broome Community College, Second Annual Applied Ethics Conference: Environmental Ethics, April 17, 2010.

“Consciousness and Free Will: A Critique of the Argument from Introspection,” 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Philosophy Society, November 10, 2007. San Antonio, TX.

“Shifting Contexts: Communicating Expectations to Writers in Core Humanities Classes,” (delivered with the Writing Fellows from John Jay College) Writing Across the Curriculum Semester of Inquiry Conference, City University of New York Graduate School, May 13, 2005. New York, NY.

“Sensory States, Consciousness, and the Cartesian Assumption,” Boston College, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Philosophy Conference: Descartes and Cartesianism, March 27, 2004. Boston, MA.

“Sensory States, Consciousness, and the Cartesian Assumption,” The New Jersey Regional Philosophy Association Fall Meeting, November 18, 2000.

### **Invited Talks:**

“Criminal Behavior in the Age of Neuroscience,” Keynote Speaker at the *Ethics in the Age of Neuroscience Conference*, University of Calgary, May 2017.

“Life Unfree: Meaning, Purpose, and Punishment without Free Will,” *Cornelia Street Café*, January 11, 2016. Sponsored by the Gotham Philosophical Society.

“Free Will Skepticism and Its Implications: Punishment Reconsidered,” University of Ghent, October 2, 2015. Ghent, Belgium.

“Free Will Skepticism and Its Implications,” Unitarian Fellowship Church, March 9, 2014. Big Flats, NY.

“Free Will and Consciousness,” Science and Religion Discussion Group, First United Methodist Church, June 12, 2012. Corning, NY.

“The Free Will Illusion: Why You Are Not Free,” Lecture Series sponsored by the Council of Full Professors, Corning Community College, March 27, 2009. Corning, NY.

“Stephen Palmer’s ‘Color, Consciousness, and the Isomorphism Constraint,’” Cognitive Science Symposium and Discussion Group, City University of New York Graduate School, Fall 1999.

“Necessity, Truth and Existence in Descartes’ Second Meditation,” Felician College, February 14, 1997.

“Writing for Philosophy: Socratic Method and Logical Fallacies,” John Jay College of Criminal Justice, April 21, 2005.

### **Media Appearances (select):**

- *Rationally Speaking*, July 10, 2016. Free Will and Moral Responsibility.
- *Philosophy Bites*, April 26, 2016. Free Will and Punishment.
- TEDx talk on The Dark Side of Free Will. December 9, 2014.
- *Space, Time, Mind* (podcast). June 13, 2014.
- NOVA’s *The Secret Life of Scientists and Engineers* [Print interview]. July 2014.
- *Philosophy TV* episode with Neil Levy, May 28, 2014.
- *Skeptical Sundays*, hosted by John Sullivan, June 8, 2014 (88.1 Ithaca, 91.9 Watkins Glen).
- *Philosophy TV* episode with Bruce Waller, December 4, 2013.
- *Skeptical Sundays*, hosted by John Sullivan, November 3, 2013 (88.1 Ithaca, 91.9 Watkins Glen).

### **Conference Commentaries/Responses:**

“Comments on Leigh Vicens’ ‘Self-Forming Actions and Conflicts of Intention’” 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Philosophical Society, Saturday, November 1, 2014. Lawrence, KS.

“Comments on Joseph Palencik’s ‘Thinking about Believing: Is Testimony-Inspired Belief Necessary to Testimony?’” Long Island Philosophical Society (LIPS) Fall Conference, St. John’s University, October 21, 2006. Queens, NY.

“Comments on Francesca di Poppa’s ‘Descartes’ Theory of Sense Perception’” City University of New York Graduate Philosophy Conference (CUNY Graduate Center, New York, New York), March 15, 2003.

## EXPERIENCE

### Editorial Positions:

Founder and Editor-in-Chief, *Science, Religion and Culture* (SRC) (2014-present)  
Assessing Editor, *The Journal of Mind and Behavior* (2011-present)

### Positions in Professional Organizations and Societies:

Co-Director, Justice Without Retribution Network (2015-Present)  
President, Southwestern Philosophical Society (SWPS) (2014-2015)  
Vice President, Southwestern Philosophical Society (SWPS) (2013-2014)  
Executive Committee Member (at Large), Southwestern Philosophical Society (SWPS) (2012-2013)

### Blogs:

Contributor, *Psychology Today* (author of the blog *Unjust Deserts*)  
Contributor, *Flickers of Freedom*

### Grants:

- CCC Sustainability Grant: \$5,000 to establish the *Justice Without Retribution Network*; Directors: Gregg Caruso (SUNY Corning), Derk Pereboom (Cornell University), and Farah Focquaert (Ghent University), Elizabeth Shaw (University of Aberdeen).
- Cornell University Grant: \$8,000 to organize *Justice Without Retribution Conference*. June 3-5, 2016.

### Awards/Distinctions/Fellowships:

SUNY Chancellors Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities — 2015  
Regional Board of Trustees Excellence in Teaching Award — 2012  
Award of Excellence: Awarded by the Faculty Assembly of Corning Community College — 2007  
Writing Fellowship, John Jay College of Criminal Justice [Two-year Fellowship] — 2003-2005  
Graduate Teaching Fellowship, Brooklyn College [Three-year Fellowship] — 2000-2003

### Courses Taught:

Phil 1010: Introduction to Philosophy	Phil 2360: Philosophy of the Arts
Phil 2010: Introduction to Ethics	Phil 2420: Social & Political Philosophy
Phil 2070: Contemporary Philosophy	Honors Forum: Science and Religion
Phil 2200: Environmental Ethics	Phil 10: Reasoning (Brooklyn College)
Phil 2250: Health Care Ethics	Phil 14: Moral Issues in Business (Brooklyn College)
Phil 2310: Philosophy of Religion	Phil 15.3: Medical Ethics (Brooklyn College)

---

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND EVENTS

Co-organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: Gun Control: Gun Violence and the 2nd Amendment”  
Corning Community College, April 11, 2013. [Debated Steuben County Sheriff David Cole.]

Organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: Occupy Wall St: Democracy, Economic Inequality, and the Role of Social Protest” Corning Community College, November 10, 2011. [Debated local Tea Party President.]

Organizer and Moderator: *NY-29th Congressional District Debate: Tom Reed (R) vs. Matt Zeller (D)*. [I organized and moderated a debate between the two candidates for the 29th Congressional District.]

Co-organizer, “College Roundtable: The Politics of Workers Rights: Do we still need unions?” Corning Community College, April 7, 2011.

Organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: A Colossal Fracking Mess: Hydraulic Fracturing in NYS (To Frack or Not to Frack?)” Corning Community College, September 23, 2010.

Organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: Gay Marriage: A Civil Right or Special Privilege?” Corning Community College, March 11, 2010.

Organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: Health Care Reform: The Great Debate” Corning Community College, September 24, 2009.

Organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: Darwin 200 Years Later: How has Darwin’s Theory of Evolution Changed the World?” Corning Community College, April 2, 2009.

Organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: End of Capitalism? Bailout and Worldviews” Corning Community College, November 16, 2008.

Organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: Privacy, Surveillance, and Modern Life” Corning Community College, September 25, 2008.

Co-organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: The Role of the Citizen in a Participatory Democracy” Corning Community College, April 17, 2008.

Co-organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: Health Care: A Right or a Privilege?” Corning Community College, November 15, 2007.

Co-organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: Global Warming: Are the Solutions at Hand?” Corning Community College, April 26, 2007.

Organizer, Philosophy Lecture Series: “Socratic Citizenship” with Robert Talisse [Vanderbilt University]. Corning Community College, Nov 6, 2006.

Co-organizer and Panel Member, “College Roundtable: The Ethics of Eating” Corning Community College, Nov 2, 2006.

---

## COMMITTEES

Curriculum Committee	Corning Community College (2013-present)
Honors Program Committee	Corning Community College (2009-2015)
Educational Policies	Corning Community College (2007-2011)
LAS Program Review Committee,	Corning Community College (2009-2011)
Middle States Periodic Review Report	Corning Community College (2007-2008)
Green Campus Task Force	Corning Community College (2006-2007)
Arrangements and Calendar	Committee, Brooklyn College (2005-2006)
Philosophy Department Secretary	Brooklyn College (2005-2006)
Student Steering Committee	CUNY Graduate School (2000-2001)
Student Member, Executive Committee	CUNY Graduate School (2000-2001)

---

## REFERENCES

<p>Derk Pereboom Cornell University Sage School of Philosophy (607) 255-6825 (office) dp346@cornell.edu</p>	<p>Owen Flanagan Duke University 919-660-3050 (office) ojf@duke.edu</p>
<p>Robert Kane University of Texas at Austin robertkane@utexas.edu 512-537-5099</p>	<p>Bruce Waller Youngstown State College 330-941-3447 (office) 330-726-2502 (home) bnwaller@ysu.edu</p>
<p>Neil Levy Macquarie University neil.levy@philosophy.ox.ac.uk neil.nl.levy@gmail.com +61 2 9850 6800 61383445761 (cell)</p>	<p>Manuel Vargas University of San Francisco 415-422-6789 mrvargas@usfca.edu</p>