

Charles W. Collier
Professor of Law and Philosophy

Contact Information

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Education

J.D., Stanford Law School, 1985
Ph.D., Yale University, 1978 (Philosophy)
DAAD Fellow, Universität Heidelberg, 1975-77
M.Phil., Yale University, 1975 (Philosophy)
M.A., Yale University, 1973 (Philosophy)
B.A., Reed College, 1972 (Literature and Philosophy)
University of Pennsylvania, 1968-70

Professional Experience

Professor of Law and Philosophy, University of Florida, 1994--
Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow, Universities of Frankfurt and Göttingen,
1990-95
Professor of Law, University of Florida (with tenure, by unanimous vote), 1992--
Associate Professor of Law, University of Florida, 1989-92
Assistant Professor of Law, University of Florida, 1986-89
Law Clerk to Hon. Irving L. Goldberg, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth
Circuit, 1985-86; *see, e.g.*, *Presidio Enterprises, Inc. v. Warner Bros. Distributing
Corp.*, 784 F.2d 674 (5th Cir. 1986)

Summer Associate, Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, Washington, D.C., 1985
Summer Law Intern, Civil Division Appellate Staff, U.S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C., 1984
Summer Associate, Losey & Thompson, San Francisco, 1983
Assistant to the Provost, Wittenberg University, 1981-82
Faculty Member, St. John's College, Annapolis, 1979-81
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Hawai'i, 1977-79
Teaching Fellow, Department of Philosophy, Yale University, 1974-75

Honors and Awards

Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship, Fachbereich Rechtswissenschaft,
Universität Frankfurt, Fall Semester 1995
Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship, Fachbereich Rechtswissenschaft,
Universität Frankfurt, Fall Semester 1993
Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship, Fachbereich Rechtswissenschaft,
Universität Frankfurt, Fall Semester 1992
Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship, Juristisches Seminar der Universität
Göttingen, Academic Year 1990-91
Editorial Advisory Board, *Law & Society Review--Fifth Issue*, Volumes 21-23, 1987-89
Article Editor, *Stanford Law Review*, Volume 37, 1984-85
Staff Member, *Stanford Law Review*, Volume 36, 1983-84
Member, Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation, 1983-85
NEH Fellowship and Summer Seminar on *Medieval European Epic*, Department of
German Studies, Stanford University, 1980
Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst Fellowship, Philosophisches Seminar der
Universität Heidelberg, 1975-77
Research Grants, Council on West European Studies, Yale University, 1976, 1977
University Fellowship, Yale Graduate School, 1972-75
Summer Scholarship, Goethe-Institut Schwäbisch Hall, 1975
Summer Scholarship, Yale Summer Language Institute, 1973
Norman F. Coleman Honorary Academic Scholarship, Reed College, 1971-72
Commendation for Academic Excellence, Faculty of Reed College, 1972
Commendation for Academic Excellence, Faculty of Reed College, 1971

Language Preparation

Goethe-Institut Schwäbisch Hall, Summer 1975 (German)
Goethe-Institut Radolfzell, Summer 1974 (German)
Yale Summer Language Institute, Summer 1973 (French)
Goethe-Institut Murnau, Summer 1972 (German)
Undergraduate course work in Greek, Latin, German, French

Personal Data

Born: 1950 (Birmingham, Alabama); Citizenship: USA
Interests: long-distance running, tennis, chess, classical music, financial economics,
journalism, architecture, photography

Teaching and Research Interests

Jurisprudence and Legal Theory
American Legal Thought
Constitutional Law
Interdisciplinary Legal Philosophy
First Amendment Theory and the Philosophy of Language
Legal and Intellectual History
Intellectual Foundations of the Humanities and Social Sciences
Social, Political, and Legal Philosophy

Seminars Offered

First Amendment Workshop
Critical Legal Studies
Causation in Law and Philosophy
Philosophical Foundations of Freedom of Expression
Tolerance and Freedom of Expression
Law and Language
Philosophical Neutrality and Constitutional Conflict
First Amendment Theory
Constitutional Theory
Presidential Impeachment
Supreme Court Workshop

Selected Presentations

"A Conversation with Justice Stevens," Levin College of Law, University of Florida (Jan. 20, 2015); webcast available at: <http://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/a8a96264bef14244a722de47cdcefb071d>

The Gestalt, the Symbol, the Sign, the Word, and the Sentence, Department of Philosophy, University of Florida (April 15, 2002).

Law as Interpretation, Panel on Philosophical Hermeneutics and Critical Legal Theory: Theoretical Issues, Working Group on Law, Culture, and the Humanities, Georgetown University Law Center (March 11, 2000).

Die Vorgeschichte von Toleranz in Literatur, Kunst und Philosophie: Eine "tiefe Theorie" der Meinungsfreiheit, Faculty of Law, University of Göttingen (December 1, 1993); Institut für Kriminalwissenschaften, University of Frankfurt (December 7, 1993).

The Prehistory of Tolerance in Literature, Art, and Philosophy, AALS Conference on Constitutional Law, University of Michigan Law School (June 15, 1993).

Rechtsphilosophische Probleme der Bedeutung der Kausalität für die Anstiftung, Faculties of Law and Philosophy, University of Göttingen (June 5, 1991).

Vom Nutzen und Nachteil humanistischer Theorien für die Jurisprudenz, Faculty of Law, University of Göttingen (January 24, 1991).

Publications

Books

Meaning in Law: A Theory of Speech. New York & Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009. Pp. ix + 194.

Reviewed: 123 *Harvard Law Review* 1812 (2010).

Basic Themes in Law and Jurisprudence. LexisNexis, Anderson Publishing Co., 2000. Pp. xviii + 486.

Academic Publications

Law and Interpretation, in *Elgar Concise Encyclopedia of Legal Theory and Philosophy* (forthcoming 2024).

The Economics of Information and the Meaning of Speech, 71 *Catholic University Law Review* 345-76 (2022).

The Climate of Opinion: Legal and Economic Theories for an Uninhabitable Earth, 14 *Washington University Jurisprudence Review* 69-152 (2021) (with Judah Cohen).

The Unwritten Rules of Liberal Democracy, 15 *U. Mass. L. Rev.* 197-268 (2020).

The Armed Society and Its Friends: A Reckoning, 70 *Hastings Law Journal* 671-87 (2019).

The Death of Gun Control: An American Tragedy, 41:1 *Critical Inquiry* 102-131 (2014).

The Death of Gun Control: An American Tragedy, *Critical Inquiry* Web Exclusive: http://criticalinquiry.uchicago.edu/the_death_of_gun_control_an_american_tragedy

On the Zimmerman Case Verdict . . . , *In the Moment: The Critical Inquiry Blog* (July 16, 2013), available at: <http://critinq.wordpress.com/2013/07/16/476/>

Gun Control in America: An Autopsy Report, 60:3 *Dissent* 81-86 (2013).

An Inefficient Truth, 23:1-2 *Critical Review* 29-71 (2011).

Reviewed: *The Deal Economy* (June 16, 2011).

The Huffington Post (June 21, 2011).

Review of Steven J. Heyman, *Free Speech and Human Dignity*, 119 *Ethics* 367-72 (2009).

Presidential Debates and Deliberative Democracy, 117 *Yale Law Journal Forum* (16 June 2008):

<http://www.yalelawjournal.org/forum/presidential-debates-and-deliberative-democracy>

Terrorism as an Intellectual Problem, 55 *Buffalo Law Review* 815-40 (2007).

Speech and Communication in Law and Philosophy, 12 *Legal Theory* 1-17 (2006).

Review of Owen Fiss, *The Law as It Could Be*, 116 *Ethics* 412-16 (2006).

Letter to the Editors, 55 *Journal of Legal Education* 626 (2005).

Affirmative Action and the Decline of Intellectual Culture, 55 *Journal of Legal Education* 3-15 (2005).

The Harsh Judgment of History: The Terrorist Worldview and Intellectual Values, 50:1 *Dissent* 62-65 (2003).

The Wrath of History, 12:3 *The Responsive Community* 57-60 (2002).

Hate Speech and the Mind-Body Problem: A Critique of Postmodern Censorship Theory, 7 *Legal Theory* 203-34 (2001).

Law as Interpretation, 76 *Chicago-Kent Law Review* 779-823 (2000).

Terms of Endearment and Articles of Impeachment, 51 *Florida Law Review* 615-40 (1999) (co-authored with Christopher Slobogin).

A Legal Theory of Tolerance and Perspective, 84 *Archiv für Rechts- und Sozialphilosophie* 59-86 (1998).

The New Logic of Affirmative Action, 45 *Duke Law Journal* 559-78 (1995).

The Descent of Political Theory and the Limitations of Legal Tolerance, 44 *Journal of Legal Education* 273-82 (1994).

Interdisciplinary Legal Scholarship in Search of a Paradigm, 42 *Duke Law Journal*

840-53 (1993).

Intellectual Authority and Institutional Authority, 35 *Inquiry* 145-81 (1992); reprinted in 42 *Journal of Legal Education* 151-85 (1992).

Cultural Critique and Legal Change, 43 *Florida Law Review* 463-75 (1991).

The Use and Abuse of Humanistic Theory in Law: Reexamining the Assumptions of Interdisciplinary Legal Scholarship, 41 *Duke Law Journal* 191-273 (1991).

Precedent and Legal Authority: A Critical History, 1988 *Wisconsin Law Review* 771-825.

Origins and Development of Medieval European Epic: The Problem of Cultural Transmission and Transformation, 9 *Mediaevalia* 45-82 (1983-86).

Note, The Improper Use of Presumptions in Recent Criminal Law Adjudication, 38 *Stanford Law Review* 423-62 (1986).

Review of Claude Lévi-Strauss, *The Naked Man: Introduction to a Science of Mythology*, *The Washington Post Book World*, July 12, 1981, at 8.

Translation of Gerold Prauss, Time, Space, and Schematism, 13 *Philosophical Forum* 1-11 (1981).

History, Culture, and Communication, 20 *History and Theory* 150-67 (1981).

Translation of Gerold Prauss, Knowing and Acting in Kant's Sense, The Lewis White Beck Kant Conference, University of Rochester (April 12-14, 1979); published as Gerold Prauss, Kants Problem der Einheit theoretischer und praktischer Vernunft, 72 *Kant-Studien* 286-303 (1981).

Verzweiflung an der Geschichte, 52 *Deutsche Vierteljahrsschrift für Literaturwissenschaft und Geistesgeschichte* 527-43 (1978).