

Emotions and Morality in the History of Philosophy



Roman mosaic from the Villa del Cicerone in Pompeii

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April 23-24, 2026

University of Notre Dame | McKenna Hall



History of Philosophy Forum
Workshop on Ancient Philosophy



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Conference Schedule

All times are Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

Thursday, April 23

Breakfast, lunch, and all academic sessions will take place across 205/206/207 McKenna.

8:45–9:20 a.m. Continental breakfast

9:20–9:30 a.m. Welcome

9:30–10:30 a.m. Anger and Respect in Aristotle and Beyond

Pia Campeggiani, University of Bologna

Douglas Cairns, University of Edinburgh

10:30–11 a.m. Coffee break

11 a.m.–noon The Pathetic Syllogism, Round Two: A Reply to J. B. Gourinat

Margaret Graver, Dartmouth College

noon–1 p.m. Feeling like a (Philosopher) King: Emotions and Ideal Rulers in al-Farabi (d. 339/950)

Raissa de Rande, University of Chicago

1–2:30 p.m. Lunch

2:30–3:30 p.m. Mirabile dictu: The Emotion of Wonder or Awe (Admiratio) and Its Moral Role in Thomas Aquinas

David Elliot, The Catholic University of America

3:30–4 p.m. Coffee break

4–5 p.m. The Morality of the Passions from Aquinas to the Renaissance

Eileen C. Sweeney, Boston College

Friday, April 24

Breakfast, lunch, and all academic sessions will take place across 205/206/207 McKenna.

8:45–9:30 a.m. Continental breakfast

9:30–10:30 a.m. Affective Remedy, Government and Standards: Naturalistic Strategies for Ameliorating the Passions in Early Modern Philosophy

Amy Schmitter, University of Alberta

10:30–11 a.m. Coffee break

11 a.m.–noon Morality's Compass: The Wisdom of the Passions in Early Modern Moral Philosophy

Matthew Kisner, University of South Carolina

noon–1 p.m. To Be Like Gods: Malebranche on Pride and the Love of Grandeur

Colin Chamberlain, University College London

1–2:30 p.m. Lunch

2:30–3:30 p.m. Kant on the Passions and Instrumental Reason

Rachel Zuckert, Northwestern University

3:30–4 p.m. Coffee break

4–5 p.m. Concluding discussion