



**University  
of Victoria**

Graduate Studies

Notice of the Final Oral Examination  
for the Degree of Master of Arts

of

**TED (BUDDY) BOREN**

BA (University of Alaska, Anchorage, 2006)

**“On Virtue, Value, and Epistemic Normativity”**

Department of Philosophy

Friday, August 21, 2015

1:00 P.M.

David Turpin Building

Room A110

Supervisory Committee:

Dr. Patrick Rysiew, Department of Philosophy, University of Victoria (Co-Supervisor)

Dr. Margaret Cameron, Department of Philosophy, UVic (Co-Supervisor)

External Examiner:

Dr. Danu Anthony Stinson, Department of Psychology, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination:

Dr. Gary Kuchar, Department of History, UVic

Dr. David Capson, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies

## **Abstract**

Virtue epistemology is epistemological evaluation that gives 'intellectual virtue' a primary consideration in its analysis. This thesis is about how two types of virtue epistemology are related to each other, and how when taken broadly as a whole, virtue epistemology has theoretical and practical benefits for epistemic and epistemological evaluation. I begin by way of a quick historical review, and define epistemology as the study of good or bad ways of grasping reality. Part one is then devoted to describing the 'virtue' part of virtue epistemology. I posit a broad view of virtue: that human excellences come in the form of cognitive faculties and character traits. What binds them is a meta-epistemological commitment that epistemological analysis should focus on the whole of the person, which includes how the person relates to the environment, other persons, and importantly the *values* of the whole person. In part two, I take a closer look of how the various conceptions of intellectual virtue are different, specifically with an examination of epistemic value. In part three, I take up an objection levelled by the Epistemic Anti-Realist that is a call for concern for intellectual virtues, and epistemological evaluation on a whole.