2023 HSS SCHOLAR

EVAN RILEY

MAJORS: PHILOSOPHY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE (CONCENTRATION IN POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY, AND LAW)

Educational Highlights: When beginning my journey at the College, I had no idea what I wanted to major in. After taking courses in political theory and reading Kant’s first critique, I was drawn to both Political Science and Philosophy. At CofC, I have developed interests in the intersection between politics, philosophy and law, the philosophy of language, and the study of the history of philosophy from Parmenides to Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, and Sartre. My educational journey would not have been possible without friends, family, faculty, and colleagues who have supported me throughout my life as well as during my time at college.

Research Focus: Professor Hough and I are conducting an independent study that consists of reading two of the seminal texts in 20th century philosophy. This semester, we have read Heidegger’s Being and Time, and Sartre’s Being and Nothingness. Both texts explore crucial questions pertaining to fundamental Ontology, Existentialism and Phenomenology. The project is comparative in scope and seeks to explore, compare, question, and critique these groundbreaking systems of thought. This was very much a passion project; I am humbled and beyond grateful to have been given the opportunity to pursue what deeply interests me. I couldn’t have had a better mentor.

Future plans: I plan to stay in Charleston for at least one more year to pursue job opportunities. Employment as a paralegal or an assistant paralegal would allow me to save money, and a job at a law firm would be a perfect way to gauge my passion for the field as I consider the possibility of attending law school.