

Jon Garthoff

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Employment

Professor, University of Tennessee Department of Philosophy.

August 2022-present.

Director of Graduate Studies, August 2022-present.

Associate Department Head, August 2022-July 2023.

Associate Professor, University of Tennessee Department of Philosophy.

August 2017-July 2022.

Director of Graduate Studies, August 2018-July 2022.

Faculty Fellow, University of Tennessee Humanities Center, August 2017-July 2018.

Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee Department of Philosophy.

August 2011-July 2017.

Director of Graduate Studies, August 2013-July 2017.

Assistant Professor, Northwestern University Department of Philosophy.

September 2005-August 2011.

Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Chicago Department of Philosophy.

September 2007-December 2007.

Postdoctoral Fellow, Northwestern University Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences.

September 2004-August 2005.

Education

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of California at Los Angeles, December 2004.

Dissertation – *The Embodiment of Morality*. Profs. Barbara Herman and Seana Shiffrin (co-directors), Profs. Calvin Normore and Stephen Gardbaum (committee members).

A.B. in Philosophy *summa cum laude*, Princeton University, June 1997.

Senior Thesis – *Resisting Skepticism about Meaning*. Prof. Scott Soames (adviser), Prof. John Burgess (second reader).

Areas of Expertise

Principal Areas of Specialization:

Ethical Theory, Political Philosophy, History of Ethical Theory and Political Philosophy.

Further Areas of Research/Graduate Teaching Competences:

Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Law, Metaethics.

Further Undergraduate Teaching Competences:

Epistemology, History of Philosophy, Applied Ethics.

Current Research

‘Success in Action’.

‘The Independent Value of Conscious Individuals’.

Publications

Essays

- ‘Grief in the Epistemology of Moral Status’.** With Andrew Ertzberger.
Forthcoming in *The Moral Psychology of Grief* (Bloomsbury Publishing).
- ‘Accountability without Equality in Social Relations with Thinking Animals’.**
Critica 58:172, 2026.
- ‘Decency’.**
The Southern Journal of Philosophy, 64:1, 2026.
- ‘Secular Beatitude’.**
Philosophia 54:5, 2025.
- ‘Societal Cooperation in Latest Rawls’.**
Theoria 91:5, 2025.
- ‘Does It Matter if Empathetic AI Has No Empathy?’** With Garriy Shteynberg et al.
Nature Machine Intelligence 6:5, 2024.
- ‘Decomposing Humanity’.**
In *Rethinking the Value of Humanity*, Eds. Sarah Buss and Nandi Theunissen (Oxford University Press, 2023).
- ‘Agency and Identity in the Collective Self’.** With Garriy Shteynberg, Jacob B. Hirsh, and R. Alexander Bentley.
Personality and Social Psychology Review 26:1, 2022.
- ‘Rawlsian Anti-Capitalism and Left Solidarity’.**
Philosophy and Public Issues 10:1, 2020.
Reprinted in *Realizing Equality in Policy*, Ed. Alexander Kaufman (University of Michigan Press, 2025).
- ‘Animal Punishment and the Conditions of Responsibility’.**
Philosophical Papers 49:1, 2020.
- ‘Against the Construction of Animal Ethical Standing’.**
In *Kant and Animals*, Eds. John Callanan and Lucy Allais (Oxford University Press, 2020).
- ‘Shared Worlds and Shared Minds: A Theory of Collective Learning and a Psychology of Common Knowledge’.** With Garriy Shteynberg, Jacob B. Hirsh, and R. Alexander Bentley.
Psychological Review 127:5, 2020.
- ‘Animal Psychology and Free Agency’.**
Yearbook of the Irish Philosophical Society Humans & Other Animals Special Issue, 2020.
- ‘Decomposing Legal Personhood’.**
Journal of Business Ethics 154:4, 2019.
- ‘Playability as Realism’.**
Journal of the Philosophy of Games 1:1, 2018.
- ‘The Dialectical Activity of Becoming Just’.**
In *Justice*, Ed. Mark LeBar (Oxford University Press, 2018).
- ‘Rawlsian Stability’.**
Res Publica 22:3, 2016.
- ‘The Priority and Posteriority of Right’.**
Theoria 81:3, 2015.
- ‘The Salience of Moral Character’.**
The Southern Journal of Philosophy 53:2, 2015.
- ‘On the Respectful Use of Animals’.**
Between the Species 16:1, 2013.
- ‘The Idea of an Overlapping Consensus Revisited’.**
The Journal of Value Inquiry 46:2, 2012.
- ‘Meriting Concern and Meriting Respect’.**
Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy 5:2, 2010.

‘Legitimacy Is Not Authority’.

Law and Philosophy 29:6, 2010.

‘Mimicking Korsgaard’.

In *Rethinking Kant: Volume II*, Ed. Pablo Muchnik (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2010).

‘Structuring Ends’.

Philosophia 38:4, 2010.

‘The Embodiment Thesis’.

Ethical Theory and Moral Practice 7:1, 2004.

‘Zarathustra’s Dilemma and the Embodiment of Morality’.

Philosophical Studies 117:2, 2004.

Encyclopedia Entries

‘Procedural Justice’ and ‘Publicity’.

In *A Cambridge Rawls Lexicon*, Eds. Jon Mandle and David Reidy (Cambridge University Press, 2015).

‘Duty’.

In *The Encyclopedia of Political Thought*, Eds. Michael Gibbons, Diana Coole, Elisabeth Ellis, and Kennan Ferguson (Wiley-Blackwell Publishing, 2014).

Book Reviews

William Mander, *Idealist Ethics* (Oxford University Press, 2016).

Notre Dame Philosophical Review, 2016.

James Sterba, *From Rationality to Equality* (Oxford University Press, 2013).

Philosophical Review 124:3, 2015.

Samuel Kerstein, *How to Treat Persons* (Oxford University Press, 2013).

Notre Dame Philosophical Review, 2013.

Robert Taylor, *Reconstructing Rawls* (Penn State University Press, 2011).

Perspectives on Politics 10:4, 2012.

Christian Miller (Ed.), *The Continuum Companion to Ethics* (Continuum, 2011).

Notre Dame Philosophical Review, 2012.

Terence Irwin, ‘Rawls: The Right and the Good’, in *The Development of Ethics: Volume III* (Oxford University Press, 2009).

Philosophical Forum 42:3, 2011.

Alex Voorhoeve, *Conversations on Ethics* (Oxford University Press, 2009).

Journal of Moral Philosophy 8:4, 2011.

Samuel Scheffler, *Equality and Tradition* (Oxford University Press, 2010).

Notre Dame Philosophical Review, 2010.

Other Publications

‘Training an Animal? An Ethicist Explains Why Your Dog – But Not Your Frog – Can Be Punished’.

The Conversation Ethics and Religion Article, 2 February 2024.

‘Corporations, Animals, and Legal Personhood’.

Scholars Strategy Network Key Finding, 30 May 2018.

‘Misrepresenting Rawls on Meritocracy’.

Washington Post Opinion Article, 19 January 2018.

Media Appearances

‘What Is Socialism?’

Democratic TV Episode, 11 June 2021.

‘Playability versus Realism in RPG Worlds’.

Brunches & Dragons Podcast Episode 10, 13 December 2020.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

- Graduate Student Senate Award for Excellence in Mentorship**, University of Tennessee, April 2024.
- Graduate Student Senate Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Support**, University of Tennessee, April 2024.
- College of Arts and Sciences Award for Interdisciplinary Collaboration and Research**, University of Tennessee, December 2019.
- Tennessee Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship**, University of Tennessee, August 2017-July 2018.
- Haines Morris Award** for Pleasure & Pain Conference, University of Tennessee, June 2016.
- Haines Morris Award** for Reason, Sentiment, and Sensibility in the Moral Life Conference, University of Tennessee, November 2014.
- Visiting Scholar Grant** for Humanities Center Religion and Politics speaker series, University of Tennessee Office of Research, May 2013.
- Quest Scholar**, University of Tennessee Office of Research, March 2013.
- Haines Morris Award** for Themes from the Moral Philosophy of John Rawls and Immanuel Kant Conference, University of Tennessee, November 2012.
- Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences Grant** for Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics Conference, May 2010, May 2009, April 2008, May 2007, and May 2006.
- Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences Postdoctoral Research Fellowship**, Northwestern University, 2004-05.
- Charlotte Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship**, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, 2003-04.
- Rudolf and Ina Carnap Prize** for “Collective Agent-Centered Options” as most outstanding graduate student essay, University of California at Los Angeles Department of Philosophy, June 2003.
- Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award** for “Zarathustra’s Dilemma and the Embodiment of Morality”, Pacific Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, March 2003.
- Dissertation Year Fellowship**, University of California at Los Angeles Graduate Division, 2002-03.
- Humane Studies Dissertation Fellowship**, Institute for Humane Studies, George Mason University, 2002-03.
- Hortense Fishbaugh Dissertation Fellowship**, Affiliates of the University of California at Los Angeles, 2002-03.
- Robert Yost Prize** as most outstanding teaching assistant, University of California at Los Angeles Department of Philosophy, June 2001.
- President’s Fellowship**, University of California at Los Angeles Graduate Division, 2001-02 and 1997-98.
- John Martin Warbeke Prize** for *Resisting Skepticism About Meaning* as most outstanding undergraduate thesis in metaphysics and epistemology, Princeton University Department of Philosophy, June 1997.

Selected Professional Affiliations

- American Association of University Professors**, March 2018-present.
- International Association for Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy**, February 2015-present.
- Tennessee Philosophical Association**, November 2011-present.
- North American Kant Society**, October 2008-present.
- American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy**, December 2004-present.
- American Philosophical Association**, September 1999-present.

Selected Professional Service

Collaborative for Animal Behavior Steering Committee Member, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences, August 2026-present.

Search Committee Member, University of Tennessee Department of Philosophy, August 2026-present. Search not yet concluded.

Center for Brain, Cognition, and Behavior ‘Big Idea’ Proposal Committee Member, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences, November 2025-January 2026.

Professional Rights and Academic Freedom Committee Member, American Philosophical Association, August 2024-present.

Tennessee High School Ethics Bowl Judge, January 2015-present.

Center for the Study of Social Justice Faculty Fellow, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences, October 2011-present.

Director of Graduate Studies, University of Tennessee Philosophy Department, August 2018-present, also August 2013-July 2017.

Head’s Advisory Committee, University of Tennessee Philosophy Department, August 2018-present, also August 2013-July 2017.

Search Committee Chair, University of Tennessee Department of Philosophy, May 2024-July 2024. Search resulted in hire of Postdoctoral Teaching Associate Matthew Schrepfer.

Associate Department Head, University of Tennessee Philosophy Department, August 2022-July 2023.

Tennessee Value and Agency Conference Principal Organizer, November 2021. That year *Philosophical Psychology* was both title and theme.

Freedom: From All Sides Faculty Research Seminar Organizer, University of Tennessee Humanities Center, August 2016-July 2021.

Department Head Search Committee Member, University of Tennessee Philosophy Department, September 2016-May 2017. Search resulted in hire of Prof. Mariam Thalos.

Central Division Program Committee Member, American Philosophical Association, 2017 Central Division Meeting, July 2015-March 2017.

Search Committee Chair, University of Tennessee Department of Philosophy, August 2012-January 2014. Search resulted in hire of Prof. Kristina Gehrman.

Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Judge, University of Tennessee, March 2012.

Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics Co-Founder and Principal Organizer, Northwestern University, September 2005-August 2011.

Shepard College Residential College Faculty Fellow, Northwestern University, September 2005-August 2011.

Search Committee Chair, Northwestern University Department of Philosophy, September 2005-June 2006. Search resulted in hire of Prof. Kyla Ebels-Duggan.

Selected Reviewing

Returning Student Fellowships Selection Committee Member, University of Tennessee Graduate School, March 2026-April 2026.

New Research, Scholarly and Creative Projects Award Candidate Evaluator, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences, August 2021-July 2022.

Distinguished Research Award Candidate Evaluator, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences, August 2020-July 2021.

Fellowship Candidate Evaluator, MacArthur Fellows Program. Years not indicated to preserve anonymity of review process.

Fellowship Reviewer, American Council of Learned Societies. Years not indicated to preserve anonymity of review process.

Referee of Book Manuscripts for Broadview Press; Cambridge University Press; Oxford University Press; Routledge Publishing; and Palgrave Macmillan.

Graduate Supervision

- (Director) Alex Tesar**, University of Tennessee, *Knowledge in the Absence of Absolute Truths*, Ph.D. expected May 2027. With Profs. E. J. Coffman, Clerk Shaw, and Daniel Magilow.
- (Director) Sue Hwang**, University of Tennessee, *What Is Moral Anger?*, Ph.D. expected May 2027. With Profs. Clerk Shaw, Avery Kolers, and Garriy Shteynberg.
- Wusheng Wang**, University of Tennessee, *A Discussion of the Fundamental Nature of Free Will*, Ph.D. expected May 2027. With Profs. E. J. Coffman (director), David Palmer, and Eric Perl.
- (Adviser) Wenxuan Shen**, University of Tennessee, *What Are Global Injustices and How Are They Reproduced?* Global Studies Certificate Capstone Paper, September 2025.
- (Co-Director) Linh Mac**, University of Tennessee, *Krinostic Injustice*, Ph.D. 2025. With Profs. Georgi Gardiner (co-director), David Reidy, and Amy Floweree. Placement: Assistant Professor, Le Moyne College.
- (Director) Troy Polidori**, University of Tennessee, *A Sacred Outrage: Morality and Tragedy*, Ph.D. 2025. With Profs. Adam Cureton, Kristina Gehrman, and Thomas Haddox. Placement: Assistant Professor, Wingate University.
- (Director) Michael Ebling**, University of Tennessee, *Presentations of Value*, Ph.D. 2024. With Profs. Kristina Gehrman, Georgi Gardiner, and Garriy Shteynberg. Placement: Teaching Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee.
- Jingsi Teng**, University of Tennessee, *Harming Groups*, Ph.D. 2024. With Profs. Adam Cureton (director), Michael McKinney, and David Palmer. Placement: Assistant Professor, Augusta University.
- Andrew Heim**, University of Tennessee (Department of Psychology), *Common, Cursed, and Collective: Sharing Knowledge and Reasoning Recursively under Conditions of Collective Attention*, Ph.D. 2024. With Profs. Garriy Shteynberg (director), Lowell Gaertner, and Michael Olson.
- Matthew Richesin**, University of Tennessee (Department of Psychology), *The Role of Awe in the Exploration of the Unknown*, Ph.D. 2024. With Profs. Debora Baldwin (director), Todd Freeberg, and Bob DuBois.
- (Co-Director) Claire Dartez**, University of Tennessee, *The Epistemic Value of Resonance*, Ph.D. 2023. With Profs. Georgi Gardiner (co-director), E.J. Coffman, and Jeff Larsen. Placement: Teaching Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee.
- Donnie Barnett**, University of Tennessee, *Content Externalism and Self-Knowledge*, Ph.D. 2022. With Profs. E.J. Coffman (director), Georgi Gardiner, and Garriy Shteynberg. Placement: Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Cincinnati.
- (Co-Director) Rebecca Spicer-Keller**, University of Tennessee, *The Conflict of Rights in the Moral Community*, M.A. 2022. With Profs. Matt Pamental (co-director), Michael Higdon, and Paula Schaefer.
- (Co-Director) Anne Merrill**, University of Tennessee, *Caring for Fat Patients*, M.A. 2022. With Profs. Alex Feldt (co-director) and Mariam Thalos.
- Steven Kyle**, University of Tennessee (Department of Psychology), *Reliance on Predator Cues to Assess Risk by Carolina Chickadees and Tufted Titmice*, Ph.D. 2022. With Profs. Todd Freeberg (director), David Buehler, Gordon Burghardt, and Matthew Cooper.
- (Director) Grace Campbell**, University of Tennessee, *Stability and Resilience in Rawls's Political Liberalism*, Ph.D. 2022. With Profs. David Reidy, Adam Cureton, and Nathan Kelly. Placement: Assistant Professor, University of North Carolina at Asheville.
- Eddy Falls**, University of Tennessee, *A Critique of John McDowell's Theory of Moral Perception*, Ph.D. 2021. With Profs. Kristina Gehrman (director), Clerk Shaw, and Megan Bryson. Placement: Adjunct Faculty Member, Appalachian State University.
- (Director) Alex Richardson**, University of Tennessee, *Oppression, Civility, and the Politics of Resistance*. Ph.D. 2021. With Profs. David Reidy, Adam Cureton, and Lisi Schoenbach. Placement: Associate Director, Prindle Institute for Ethics.

- Caroline Mobley**, University of Tennessee, *An Ethics of Amusement*, Ph.D. 2021. With Profs. Kristina Gehrman (director), Clerk Shaw, and Garriy Shteynberg. Placement: Instructor, High Point University.
- Mary Gatta**, University of Tennessee, *The Role of Homeric Virtue in Plato's Protagoras*, M.A. 2020. With Profs. Clerk Shaw (director) and Kristina Gehrman.
- Mary Helen Brickhouse-Bryson**, University of Tennessee, *The Dual Nature of Gratitude: Understanding Gratitude as Both a Virtue and a Duty*, Ph.D. 2019. With Adam Cureton (director), Kristina Gehrman, and Allen Dunn. Placement: Instructor, Lynchburg College.
- Naomi Rinehold**, University of Tennessee, *Counsel: A Conversational Outworking of Friendship*, Ph.D. 2019. With Clerk Shaw (director), Kristina Gehrman, and Joe Miles. Placement: Student Services Administrator, Gutenberg College.
- (Director) Qianlu (Lily) Ying**, University of Tennessee, *Social Justice in the Natural Law Tradition: A Critique of Antimoralist Marxism*, Ph.D. 2018. With Profs. Adam Cureton, Allen Dunn, and David Reidy. Placement: Legal Assistant, Wang Law Group.
- Marlin Sommers**, University of Tennessee, *Participating with the Known: Craft, Friendship, and Intellectual Excellence*, Ph.D. 2018. With Profs. Clerk Shaw (director), E.J. Coffman, and Robert Sklenar. Placement: Staff Member, Kingdom Channels.
- Xinghua Wang**, University of Tennessee, *The Significance of Rousseau's Concept of Amour-Propre in Rawls*, Ph.D. 2017. With Profs. David Reidy (director), Mary McAlpin, and David Palmer. Placement: Assistant Researcher, Chinese Academy of Social Science.
- Trevor Hedberg**, University of Tennessee, *Population, Consumption, and Procreation*, Ph.D. 2017. With Profs. John Nolt (director), David Reidy, and Scott Frey. Placement: Assistant Professor, University of Arizona.
- Devon Brickhouse-Bryson**, University of Tennessee, *The Beauty of Understanding*, Ph.D. 2017. With Profs. David Reidy (director), David Palmer, and Allen Dunn. Placement: Assistant Professor, Lynchburg College.
- Laura Cutshaw**, University of Tennessee, *A Rationalist Approach to Empathy*, M.A. 2016. With Profs. Adam Cureton (director) and Kristina Gehrman.
- (Director) Matthew Reese**, University of Tennessee, *Beyond Fulfillment*, M.A. 2014. With Profs. E.J. Coffman and David Palmer.
- Jason Fishel**, University of Tennessee, *The Green Staff of Asclepius*, Ph.D. 2014. With Profs. John Nolt (director), Adam Cureton, and Paul Erwin. Placement: Assistant Professor, Roane State Community College.
- Emilie Prattico**, Northwestern University, *Is Democracy Epistemic or Egalitarian?*, Ph.D. 2013 (after I departed). With Profs. Cristina Lafont (director), Richard Kraut, and Kyla Ebels-Duggan. Placement: Development and Research Representative, Business for Social Responsibility.
- Todd Burkhardt**, University of Tennessee, *Just War and Human Rights*, Ph.D. 2013. With Profs. David Reidy (director), Adam Cureton, Larry May, and Vejas Gabriel Liulevicius. Placement: Director of Campus Partnerships, Indiana University.
- (Director) Gavin Enck**, University of Tennessee, *Enhancement in Education*, Ph.D. 2013. With Profs. David Reidy, Clerk Shaw, Adam Cureton, and Sadie Hutson. Placement: Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Research Center.
- Max Cherem**, Northwestern University, *Habermas on Citizenship and Immigration*, Ph.D. 2012 (after I departed). With Profs. Cristina Lafont (director), Charles Mills, Richard Kraut, and Kyla Ebels-Duggan. Placement: Assistant Professor, Kalamazoo College.
- Joel MacClellan**, University of Tennessee, *Minding Nature*, Ph.D. 2012. With Profs. John Nolt (director), David Reidy, and Dan Simberloff. Placement: Assistant Professor, Loyola University New Orleans.

Teaching Experience

University of Tennessee Department of Philosophy

Graduate Courses.

Justice as Fairness, Fall 2026 and Spring 2019.
Moral Obligation, Fall 2025, Spring 2020, and Spring 2013.
Animal Psychology in Ethical Theory, Spring 2025, Fall 2021, Fall 2018, and Fall 2015.
Liberal Democratic Socialism?, Spring 2024.
Naming and Necessity, Fall 2023, Fall 2019, and Fall 2014.
The Nature and Value of Thought, Fall 2022.
The Nature and Value of Consciousness, Spring 2021.
Meaning and Morality, Fall 2020.
Death, Fall 2016.
Ideal and Nonideal Theory, Spring 2014.
John Rawls's Theory of Justice, Spring 2012.

Undergraduate Courses.

Ethical Theory, Spring 2026, Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2020, Spring 2017, Fall 2013, Spring 2013.
Introduction to Philosophy, Spring 2026, Spring 2021, Spring 2017, and Spring 2015.
Moral Obligation, Fall 2025 and Spring 2020.
Animal Psychology in Ethical Theory, Spring 2025, Fall 2021, Fall 2018, and Fall 2015.
Liberal Democratic Socialism?, Spring 2024.
The Nature and Value of Thought, Fall 2022.
The Nature and Value of Consciousness, Spring 2021.
Philosophy of Action, Spring 2019.
Justice as Fairness, Spring 2019.
Death, Fall 2016.
Critical Thinking, Spring 2016.
Philosophy of Mind, Spring 2016.
Social and Political Philosophy, Spring 2015 and Fall 2011.
Philosophy of Law, Fall 2013 and Spring 2012.
John Rawls's Theory of Justice, Spring 2012.
Contemporary Moral Problems, Fall 2011.

University of Chicago Department of Philosophy

Graduate Course.

Joseph Raz's Morality of Freedom, Fall 2007.

Northwestern University Department of Philosophy

Graduate Courses.

Structuring Value, Spring 2011.
John Rawls's Political Liberalism, Winter 2010 and Fall 2005.
John Rawls's Theory of Justice, Winter 2009.
Joseph Raz's Morality of Freedom, Spring 2008.
Consequentialism and Its Critics, Spring 2007.
Morality and Social Institutions, Fall 2004.

Undergraduate Courses.

Introduction to Ethical Theory, Spring 2011, Spring 2010, Winter 2007, Fall 2005.
Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2010, Winter 2010, and Fall 2007.
Reasons and Persons, Fall 2010.
Justice as Fairness, Spring 2010 and Spring 2008.
The Theory of Games, Winter 2009. (Freshman Seminar.)
Anarchism and the Duty to Obey the Law, Fall 2007. (Freshman Seminar.)
Death, Winter 2006. (Freshman Seminar.)
Elementary Logic, Fall 2004.

Presentations

- ‘A Taxonomy of Animal Learning’**, Southeastern Conference for Animal Behavior, University of Tennessee, September 2026.
- ‘The Independent Value of Conscious Individuals’**, The Value of Consciousness lecture series, Rice University, June 2026. Also presented at Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics Conference, Northwestern University, June 2024.
- ‘On “The Salience of Moral Character” and Barbara Herman’s “Leaving Deontology Behind”’**, Living with Purpose graduate seminar led by Prof. David Schmitz, University of Arizona Department of Philosophy, February 2026.
- ‘Decency’**, Midwest and Southern Workshop in Political Philosophy at Purdue University, Stephenson Institute for Classical Liberalism, May 2025. Presented also at University of North Carolina-Asheville Department of Philosophy, September 2023; and Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics Conference, Northwestern University, June 2023.
- ‘Accountability without Equality in Social Relations with Higher Animals’**, Egalitarian Justice and Public Policy Conference, University of Georgia, April 2025. Presented also at Animals and Equality Conference, Duke University, October 2024.
- ‘Societal Cooperation in Latest Rawls’**, Legitimacy Working Group, April 2025. Presented also at Midwest and Southern Workshop in Political Philosophy in downtown Chicago, Stephenson Institute for Classical Liberalism, April 2024.
- ‘Artificial General Intelligence Risk’**, Center for Artificial Intelligence Security Research Panel Discussion, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, March 2024.
- ‘Remedying the Empiricist Syndrome: Placing John Rawls in Intellectual History’**, International Symposium on John Rawls, University of Girona (Spain), October 2021. Presented also at Association for Social and Political Philosophy Crises of Liberalism Workshop, July 2021.
- ‘Objectivity, Realism, and Utopianism in Political Discourse’**, University of Tennessee College Libertarians, September 2021.
- ‘Non-Critical Reason, Non-Moral Responsibility, and the Social Status of Higher Animals’**, MANCEPT Disputes about Human Agency Panel, University of Manchester (United Kingdom), September 2021.
- ‘Recognition of, with, and among Higher Animals’**, MANCEPT Ideal of Recognition in Contemporary Normative Theory Workshop, University of Manchester (United Kingdom), September 2021.
- ‘Capitalism, Socialism, Both, or Neither?’**, University of Tennessee Philosophy Club, October 2020.
- ‘Playability as Realism’**, Comics and Popular Arts Conference, DragonCon Convention, August 2019.
- ‘Decomposing Humanity’**, Moral Philosophy Seminar, Oxford University Department of Philosophy, May 2019. Presented also at Chinese Academy of Social Science Institute of Philosophy (China), August 2018.
- ‘Freedom, Responsibility, and Animal Moral Status’**, Irish Philosophical Society Annual Conference, Carlow College (Ireland), November 2017. Presented also at University of Illinois School of Law, October 2017; and Eating Animals Conference, University of Kent (United Kingdom), June 2017.
- ‘Decomposing Legal Personhood’**, Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, University of Edinburgh (United Kingdom), July 2017. Presented also at Loyola University New Orleans Department of Philosophy, October 2013 and Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World, Eastern Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, December 2012.
- ‘(At Least) Three Kinds of Animal Moral Standing’**, Haslam Scholars Program Faculty Lecture, University of Tennessee, April 2017.
- ‘Animal Psychological Capacities and Human Ethical Theories’**, University of Tennessee Philosophy Club, February 2017.

- ‘Fred Block and Margaret Somers’s *The Power of Market Fundamentalism: Karl Polanyi’s Critique*’**, University of Tennessee Committee on Social Theory and University of Tennessee Center for the Study of Social Justice Panel Discussion, November 2016.
- ‘Animal Punishment’**, New Voices in Legal Theory Workshop, Loyola University New Orleans, February 2016. Presented also at University of Miami Department of Philosophy, December 2015; Kentucky Philosophical Association Summer Workshop, July 2015; and Wake Forest University Department of Philosophy, March 2015.
- ‘Group Agents, Non-Rational Animals, and Legal Personhood’**, Symposium Presentation, Eastern Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, January 2016.
- ‘Worldview Adoption as a Special Psychology’**, Workings of Democracy Conference, University of Iceland (Iceland), May 2015. Presented also at Religion, Civil Religion, and the Common Good Conference, London Metropolitan University (United Kingdom), June 2012; Tennessee Philosophical Association Meeting, Vanderbilt University, November 2011; and Long Island Philosophical Society Meeting, Long Island University at Brooklyn, October 2011.
- ‘Thomas Piketty’s *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*’**, Committee on Social Theory and Center for the Study of Social Justice Panel Discussion, University of Tennessee, November 2014.
- ‘Is Morality Objective?’**, Veritas Forum (with Prof. Terence Cuneo), University of Tennessee, October 2014.
- ‘Persons without Rights (and Vice Versa)’**, International Social Theory Consortium Conference, University of Tennessee, May 2014.
- ‘Rawlsian Stability’**, Symposium on John Rawls, Pacific Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, April 2014. Presented also at Indiana Philosophical Association Meeting, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, October 2013; and Tennessee Value and Agency Conference, University of Tennessee, November 2012.
- ‘The Salience of Moral Character’**, St. Mary’s University Texas Department of Philosophy, March 2014. Presented also at Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics Conference, Northwestern University, May 2013; University of Kentucky Department of Philosophy, March 2013; and Auburn University Department of Philosophy, September 2012.
- ‘Realism as a Constraint on Fantasy’**, Utopia in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Conference, University of North Georgia, February 2014. Presented also as University Honors Program Faculty Lecture, University of Tennessee, January 2013.
- ‘The Priority and Posteriority of Right’**, Workshop in Value Theory, Rutgers University Department of Philosophy, December 2013. Presented also at Value, Valuing, and Appreciation Workshop, University of North Carolina Department of Philosophy, May 2012; Invited Symposium on Moral Obligation (with Profs. Stephen Darwall and Julia Markovits), Pacific Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, April 2011; University of Tennessee Department of Philosophy, January 2011; and Iowa State University Department of Philosophy, April 2009.
- ‘Liberalism, Stability, and Fairness’**, Tennessee Philosophical Association Meeting Author Meets Critics Session, Vanderbilt University, October 2013.
- ‘Against Moral Community Closure’**, Immanuel Kant on Animals Conference, University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa), July 2013.
- ‘Legalizing Marijuana’**, Black Law Student Association Panel Discussion, University of Tennessee School of Law, April 2013.
- ‘Moral Coordination Problems and Global Distributive Justice’**, Scope of Distributive Justice Conference, Central European University (Hungary), July 2012.
- ‘Consciousness without Consequentialism’**, University of Memphis Department of Philosophy, March 2012.
- ‘On the Respectful Use of Animals’**, Moral and Legal Status of Animals Symposium, University of Tennessee, March 2012.

- ‘Moral Coordination Problems’**, Joint North Carolina Philosophical Society Meeting and South Carolina Society for Philosophy Meeting, Elon University, February 2012. Presented also at University of Groningen Department of Philosophy (The Netherlands), May 2011.
- ‘The Idea of an Overlapping Consensus Revisited’**, Eastern Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, December 2011. Presented also at University of Groningen Ethics Workshop (The Netherlands), May 2011.
- ‘The First Virtue and the Realistic Utopia’**, Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium, Washington and Jefferson College, September 2011. Presented also at Central Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, February 2010.
- ‘Philosophy as a Transhumanistic Discipline’**, The Meaning, Metaphysics, and Morality of Death Conference, University of Newcastle (United Kingdom), July 2011.
- ‘Legitimacy Is Not Authority’**, Northwestern University School of Law, March 2010. Presented also at Critical Theory Round Table, State University of New York at Stony Brook, September 2009.
- ‘Why Do Animals Count?’**, public lecture, Northwestern University, February 2010.
- ‘Meriting Concern and Meriting Respect’**, Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado, August 2009. Presented also at Iowa State University Department of Philosophy, April 2009.
- ‘Mimicking Korsgaard’**, joint meeting of Modern Philosophy Workshop and Practical Philosophy Workshop, University of Chicago Department of Philosophy, January 2010. Presented also at North American Kant Society Midwest Study Group, Purdue University, October 2008.
- ‘The Humean Interpretation of Justice as Fairness’**, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 2008. Presented also at Midwest Faculty Seminar, University of Chicago, March 2007.
- ‘Two Kinds of Unconditional Value’**, St. John’s University Department of Philosophy, February 2008.
- ‘Structuring Ends’**, Eastern Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, December 2007. Presented also at Iowa Philosophical Society Meeting, Iowa State University, September 2006.
- ‘Extreme Need and the Global Embodiment of Morality’**, Global Ethics Conference, University of Chicago, April 2005.
- ‘Collective Agent-Centered Options’**, Washington University in St. Louis Department of Philosophy, February 2004. Presented also at Vassar College Department of Philosophy, February 2004; Northwestern University Department of Philosophy, February 2004; University of Pittsburgh Department of Philosophy, January 2004; McGill University Department of Philosophy (Canada), January 2004; and University of California at San Diego Department of Philosophy, January 2004.
- ‘The Embodiment Thesis’**, British Society for Ethical Theory Conference, Queen’s University Belfast (United Kingdom), July 2003.
- ‘Zarathustra’s Dilemma and the Embodiment of Morality’**, Pacific Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, March 2003. Presented also at Northwest Philosophy Conference, Lewis & Clark College, October 2002.
- ‘Philosophical Liberalism’**, Humane Fellows Colloquium, George Mason University, May 2002. Presented also at Columbia University-New York University Graduate Philosophy Conference, March 2002.

Commentaries

- Commentary on **Gavin Lawrence**, ‘**Final Value and Contextualism**’, Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics Keynote Address, Northwestern University, May 2022.
- Commentary on **Philip Swenson**, ‘**A Solution to the Problem of Moral Luck**’, Eastern Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, January 2018.
- Commentary on **Matt Whitt**, ‘**Felon Disenfranchisement and Democratic Legitimacy**’, Eastern Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, January 2017.
- Commentary on **Sarah Wright**, ‘**The Neo-Stoic Epistemic Virtues of Groups**’, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Meeting, February 2014.
- Commentary on **Joshua Watson**, ‘**How Animalists Can Survive the Corpse Problem**’, Tennessee Philosophical Association Meeting, Vanderbilt University, October 2013.
- Commentary on **Katharine Schweitzer**, ‘**Deliberation, Negotiation, and Reasonable Disagreement**’, Central Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, Feb. 2013.
- Commentary on **Lucy Allais**, ‘**Kant on Giving to Beggars**’, North American Kant Society Biannual Meeting, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, June 2011.
- Commentary on **Paul Kelleher**, ‘**Capabilities, Resources, Spheres of Distributive Justice**’, Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics, Northwestern University, May 2010.
- Commentary on **Christine Korsgaard**, ‘**Valuing Our Humanity**’, Moral Literacy and Moral Imagination Conference, University of California at Los Angeles, April 2010.
- Commentary on **Erin Taylor**, ‘**Conventions and Moral Requirements**’, Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics, Northwestern University, April 2009.
- Commentary on **Douglas Paletta**, ‘**The New Redundancy Objection and Justifiability**’, Central Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, February 2009.
- Commentary on **Christian Coons**, ‘**The Serpent-Windings of Normative Taxonomy**’, Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics, Northwestern University, May 2008.
- Commentary on **Mark Jensen**, ‘**Can Group Agents Be Autonomous?**’, Central Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, April 2008.
- Commentary on **Julia Markovits**, ‘**Acting for the Right Reasons**’, Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics, Northwestern University, May 2007.
- Commentary on **Judith Andre**, ‘**Facets of Honesty**’, Central Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, April 2006.
- Commentary on **Lowell Herr**, ‘**The State of Nature, the Social Contract, and Gender Justice**’, Northwest Philosophy Conference, Lewis & Clark College, October 2002.

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