

SAMUEL C. RICKLESS

Philosophy Department, 0119
University of California, San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla, CA 92093-0119

Employment

2025- : Distinguished Professor, Philosophy, University of California, San Diego
2009-2025: Professor, Philosophy, University of California, San Diego
2003-2009: Associate Professor, Philosophy, University of California, San Diego
2001-2003: Assistant Professor, Philosophy, University of California, San Diego
1996-2001: Assistant Professor, Philosophy, Florida State University
1995-1996: Visiting Lecturer, Philosophy, Florida State University

Affiliations

2003- : University of San Diego Institute for Law and Philosophy
2013- : University of San Diego Institute for Law and Religion
2016- : Affiliate Professor, University of San Diego School of Law
2014, 2015: Adjunct Professor, International Summer Campus, Korea University

Education

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of California, Los Angeles, 1996
Dissertation: “*Sinn* Without Guilt: A Theory of Content for Singular Terms”
Committee: David Kaplan (chair), Kit Fine, Tim Stowell
B.Phil., Philosophy, Oxford University, 1988
B.A., Philosophy, Harvard University, 1986

Areas of Research

History of Modern Philosophy, Ethics, Philosophy of Law, Philosophy of Language,
History of Ancient Philosophy

Books

1. *Plato's Forms in Transition: A Reading of the Parmenides*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007.
Reviewed in: *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2007), *Rhizai: A Journal for Ancient Philosophy and Science* (2007), *Classical Bulletin* (2007), *Journal of the History of Philosophy* (2008), *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (2008), *Greece and Rome* (2008), *The Review of Metaphysics* (2009), *Mnemosyne* (2009), *Classical World* (2010), *Gnomon* (2010), *Etudes Platoniciennes* (2010), *Universa: Recensioni di Filosofia* (2011), *The Ancient World* (2011).

2. *Berkeley's Argument for Idealism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.
Reviewed in: *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2013), *Philosophical Quarterly* (2013), *Mind* (2014), *Philosophy in Review* (2014), *Journal of the History of Philosophy* (2015), *European Journal of Philosophy* (2016)
3. *Locke*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell (Great Minds Series), 2014.
Reviewed in: *Choice* (2015)

Edited Books

1. *The Ethics of War: Essays* (co-edited with Saba Bazargan-Forward). New York: Oxford University Press, 2017.
Reviewed in: *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2017), *Metapsychology* (2017), *Military Review* (2018), *Journal of Moral Philosophy* (2019), *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* (2020).
2. *The Ethics and Law of Omissions* (co-edited with Dana Kay Nelkin). New York: Oxford University Press, 2017.
3. *The Oxford Handbook of Berkeley*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022.
Reviewed in: *Berkeley Studies* (2023), *Archives de Philosophie* (2023)

Articles

1. "Locke on Primary and Secondary Qualities," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 78 (1997): 297-319.
2. "The Doctrine of Doing and Allowing," *Philosophical Review* 106 (1997): 555-575.
3. "Socrates' Moral Intellectualism," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 79 (1998): 355-367.
4. "The Semantic Function of Chained Pronouns," *Analysis* 58 (1998): 297-304.
5. "How Parmenides Saved the Theory of Forms," *Philosophical Review* 107 (1998): 501-554.
6. "Locke on the Freedom to Will," *The Locke Newsletter* 31 (2000): 43-67.
7. "Miranda, Dickerson, and the Problem of Actual Innocence," *Criminal Justice Ethics* 19 (2000): 2, 53-55. [invited]
8. "How to Solve Blum's Paradox" (with Dana K. Nelkin), *Analysis* 61 (2001): 91-94.

9. "Religious Arguments and the Duty of Civility," *Public Affairs Quarterly* 15 (2001): 133-154.
10. "Gideon Yaffe's Liberty Worth the Name: Locke on Free Agency," *Locke Studies* 1 (2001): 235-255. [invited]
11. "Warfield's New Argument for Incompatibilism" (with Dana K. Nelkin), *Analysis* 62 (2002): 104-107.
12. "From the Good Will to the Formula of Universal Law," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 68 (2004): 554-577.
13. "The Cartesian Fallacy Fallacy," *Noûs* 39 (2005): 309-336.
14. "Locke's Polemic Against Nativism," in *The Cambridge Companion to Locke's Essay*, edited by Lex Newman (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007), pp. 33-66. [invited]
15. "The Coherence of Orthodox Fourth Amendment Jurisprudence," *George Mason University Civil Rights Law Journal* 15 (2005): 261-296.
16. "A Synthetic Approach to Legal Adjudication," *San Diego Law Review* 42 (2005): 519-532.
17. "Polygamy and Same-Sex Marriage: A Response to Calhoun," *San Diego Law Review* 42 (2005): 1043-1048.
18. "Binding Arguments and Hidden Variables" (with Jonathan Cohen), *Analysis* 67 (2007): 65-71.
19. "Plato's *Parmenides*," *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/plato-parmenides>, August 2007; latest revision July 2015.
20. "Is Locke's Theory of Knowledge Inconsistent?," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 77 (2008): 83-104.
21. "The Right to Privacy Unveiled," *San Diego Law Review* 44:1 (2007): 773-799.
22. "Marc A. Hight's *Idea and Ontology: An Essay in Early Modern Metaphysics of Ideas*," *Berkeley Studies* 20 (2009): 22-33.
http://people.hsc.edu/berkeleystudies/issues/BS%20No%20020/BS_020_Rickless_Review.pdf.
23. "Plato's Definition(s) of Sophistry," *Ancient Philosophy* 30 (2010): 289-298.

24. "The Relation Between Anti-Abstractionism and Idealism in Berkeley's Metaphysics," *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 20 (2012): 723-740.
25. "Should Philosophers Become Public Intellectuals?" in *Global Academe: Engaging Intellectual Discourse*, edited by Silvia Nagy-Zekmi and Karyn Hollis (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012), pp. 151-161.
26. "The Moral Status of Enabling Harm," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 92 (2011): 66-86.
27. "Will and Motivation," *The Oxford Handbook of British Philosophy in the Seventeenth Century*, edited by Peter R. Anstey (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), pp. 393-414. [invited]
28. "Qualities," *The Routledge Companion to Seventeenth Century Philosophy*, edited by Dan Kaufman (New York: Routledge, 2018), pp. 60-86. [invited]
29. "Why and How to Fill an Unfilled Proposition," *Theoria* 78 (2012): 6-25.
30. "Georges Dicker's *Berkeley's Idealism: A Critical Examination*," *Berkeley Studies* 23 (2012):
http://people.hsc.edu/berkeleystudies/issues/BS%20No%20023/BS_023_Rickless_Review.pdf [invited]
31. "Hume's Theory of Pity and Malice," *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 21 (2013): 324-44.
32. "Where *Exactly* Does Berkeley Argue for the Existence of God in the *Principles*?" *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 30 (2013): 147-160.
33. "Locke on Active Power, Freedom, and Moral Agency," *Locke Studies* 13 (2013): 31-51.
34. "The Contrast-Insensitivity of Knowledge Ascriptions," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 88 (2014): 533-555.
35. "Three Cheers for Double Effect" (with Dana Kay Nelkin), *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 89 (2014): 125-158.
36. "Locke's 'Sensitive Knowledge': Knowledge or Assurance?" *Oxford Studies in Early Modern Philosophy*, vol. 7 (2016): 187-224.
37. "So Close, Yet So Far: Why Solutions to the Closeness Problem for the Doctrine of Double Effect Fall Short" (with Dana Kay Nelkin), *Noûs* 49 (2015): 376-409.

38. "Berkeley's *A Treatise Concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge*", in *The Bloomsbury Companion to Berkeley*, edited by Richard Brook and Bertil Belfrage (New York: Bloomsbury, 2017), pp. 99-120. [invited]
39. "The Relevance of Intention to Criminal Wrongdoing" (with Dana Kay Nelkin), *Criminal Law and Philosophy* 10 (2016): 745-762.
40. "Are Locke's Persons Modes or Substances?", in *Locke and Leibniz on Substance and Identity*, edited by Paul Lodge and Tom Stoneham (London: Routledge, 2015), pp. 110-127. [invited]
41. "Critical Appreciation of Jonathan Schaffer's 'The Contrast-Sensitivity of Knowledge Ascriptions'." *Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective* 4, no. 4 (2015): 1-6. [invited]
42. "Berkeley's Argument for the Existence of God in the *Three Dialogues*", in *Berkeley's Three Dialogues: New Essays*, edited by Stefan Storrie (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018), pp. 84-105. [invited]
43. "Locke on Freedom", *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/locke-freedom>, November 2015.
44. "Degrees of Certainty and Sensitive Knowledge: Reply to Soles", *Locke Studies* 15 (2015): 99-108.
45. "A Transcendental Argument for Liberalism", *San Diego Law Review* 54 (2017): 273-297.
46. "Introduction" (with Saba Bazargan-Forward), in *The Ethics of War: Essays*, edited by Saba Bazargan-Forward and Samuel C. Rickless (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017), pp. xi-xxiii.
47. "Introduction" (with Dana Kay Nelkin), in *The Ethics and Law of Omissions*, edited by Dana Kay Nelkin and Samuel C. Rickless (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017), pp. ix-xviii.
48. "Moral Responsibility for Unwitting Omissions: A New Tracing View" (with Dana Kay Nelkin), in *The Ethics and Law of Omissions*, edited by Dana Kay Nelkin and Samuel C. Rickless (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017), pp. 106-129.
49. "The Nature of Self-Defense", *San Diego Law Review* 56 (2018): 339-355.
50. "The Nature, Grounds, and Limits of Berkeley's Argument for Passive Obedience", *Berkeley Studies* 26 (2016): 3-19.
<http://berkeleystudies.philosophy.fsu.edu/sites/g/files/upcbnu886/files/BS%2026%20Rickless%20-%20Nature%20Grounds%20Limits.pdf>

51. "Locke's Ontology of Relations", *Locke Studies* 17 (2017): 61-86.
52. "Brief for an Inclusive Anti-Canon", *Metaphilosophy* 49 (2018): 167-181.
53. "Is Shepherd's Pen Mightier Than Berkeley's Word?", *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 26 (2018): 317-330.
54. "The *Parmenides*", in *The Platonic Mind*, edited by Vasilis Politis and Peter Larsen (London: Routledge, 2024), pp. 166-177.
55. "Paganism is Dead: Long Live Secularism", *San Diego Law Review* 56 (2019): 451-496.
56. "Intuitive Probabilities and the Limitation of Moral Imagination" (with Dana Kay Nelkin, Nicholas Christenfeld, Jonathan Knutzen, and Arseny A. Ryazanov), *Cognitive Science* 42 (2018): 38-68.
57. "Hume's Distinction Between Impressions and Ideas", *European Journal of Philosophy* 26 (2018): 1222-1237.
58. "Locke on Our Idea and Knowledge of God", in *The Lockean Mind*, edited by Jessica Gordon-Roth and Shelley Weinberg (New York: Routledge, 2022), pp. 533-544.
59. "Berkeley's Criticisms of Shaftesbury and Hutcheson", *Philosophy*, Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplements, Volume 88: Irish Philosophy in the Age of Berkeley (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020), pp. 97-119.
60. "Berkeley and Shepherd", in *The Oxford Handbook of Berkeley*, edited by Samuel C. Rickless (New York: Oxford University Press, 2022), pp. 656-674.
61. "Does Locke Have an Akrasia Problem?" (with Leonardo Moauro), *Journal of Modern Philosophy* 1 (2019): 9. doi: <https://doi.org/10.25894/jmp.2138>
62. "Plato's *Parmenides* Revisited" (published in Portuguese as: "O Parmênides de Platão Revisitado"), *Voluntas: Revista Internacional de Filosofia* 11 (2020): 8-21.
63. "Locke on the Probability of the Mind's Immateriality", *Locke Studies* 20 (2021): 1-28.
64. "Sensitivity to Shifts in Probability of Harm and Benefit in Moral Dilemmas" (with Arseny A. Ryazanov, Shawn Tinghao Wang, Craig R. M. McKenzie, and Dana Kay Nelkin), *Cognition* 209 (2021): 104548.
65. "Non-Consequentialist Principles Under Conditions of Uncertainty: A Framework" (with Dana Kay Nelkin). In *The Trolley Problem*, edited by Hallvard Lillehammer (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023), pp. 79-100.

66. "Locke on Free Will and Epistemic Responsibility," *Argumenta* (journal of the Italian Society for Analytic Philosophy) (2023), pp. 1-16. Also to be reprinted in *Philosophy in Assos*, edited by Örsan Oymen, in press.
67. "Trolley Problems Reimagined: Sensitivity to Ratio, Risk, and Comparisons" (with Craig R. M. McKenzie, Dana Kay Nelkin, and Arseny A. Ryazanov). In *Experiments in Moral and Political Philosophy*, edited by Hugo Viciara, Antonio Gaitán, and Fernando Aguiar (New York and London: Routledge, 2024), pp. 62-82.
68. "Conscience or Disobedience? Comments on Dov Fox, 'The Lopsided Law of Medical Conscience,'" *Journal of Contemporary Legal Issues* 25 (2024): 139-147.
69. "Locke in the Context of Early Modern Philosophy." In *The Oxford Handbook of Locke*, edited by Patrick Connolly, in press.
70. "Beyond Killing One to Save Five: Sensitivity to Ratio and Probability in Moral Judgment" (with Arseny A. Ryazanov, Tinghao Wang, Dana Kay Nelkin, and Craig R. M. McKenzie), *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology* 108 (2023): 104499.
71. "Locke's Diagnosis of Akrasia Revisited" (with Leonardo Moauro), *Journal of Modern Philosophy* 6 (2024): <https://doi.org/10.25894/jmp.1864>
72. "Locke on Morality and Religion," *Studi Lockiani Ricerche sull'età moderna* 5 (2024): 119-159.
73. "Why Mary Astell's Theory of Virtue is Not Inconsistent," *Locke Studies* 25 (2025): 1-24: <https://ojs.lib.uwo.ca/index.php/locke/article/view/21831/18560>
74. "Locke on Consent, Societal Membership, and Political Obligation" (with Karina Ortiz Villa), *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 42 (2025): 105-126.
75. "Does Mary Astell Think that Marriage is a Form of Slavery?" (with Esraa Wasel), *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 34 (2026): 66-89.
76. "Is Leibniz's Theory of 'I' Coherent?" (with Min Heo), *Journal of Modern Philosophy* 7 (2025): <https://doi.org/10.25894/jmp.2607>
77. "Locke on Simple and Complex Ideas", in *Locke's "An Essay concerning Human Understanding": A Critical Guide*, edited by Matthew Leisinger, Cambridge University Press, in press.
78. "Does Sarah Chapone Endorse a Republican Conception of Liberty?", *European Journal of Philosophy* 34 (2026): 3-16.

79. "The Moral Status of Enabling Harm Revisited," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 107 (2026): 12-27.
80. "Four Challenges to Cudworth's Theory of Freedom and Moral Responsibility." In *The Philosophy of Ralph Cudworth*, edited by Marleen Rozemond and Matthew Leisinger, Routledge Studies in Seventeenth Century Philosophy, under contract.

Work in Progress

- "Shepherd's Argument for the Causal Principle." Slated for *Essays on Mary Shepherd: Causation, Mind, and Perception*, edited by Keota Fields, under review at Oxford University Press.
- "A Serious Proposal: How to Read the Interlude in Plato's *Protagoras*" (draft)
- "Why the *Apology of Socrates* is a Platonic Work" (draft)
- "A Theory of Legal Adjudication" (draft)

Work in Preparation

- "The Doctrine of Double Effect" (with Dana Kay Nelkin) (invited, for *The Oxford Handbook of Deontology*, edited by J. Piers Rawling)

Book Reviews

- John Russell Roberts, *A Metaphysics for the Mob: The Philosophy of George Berkeley*, *Philosophical Review* 118 (2009): 244-247.
- Francis A. Grabowski III, *Plato, Metaphysics and the Forms*, *Ancient Philosophy* 30 (2010): 428-432.
- Jonathan Kramnick, *Actions and Objects from Hobbes to Richardson*, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, April 17, 2011. <http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=23449>
- Brian Leiter, *Why Tolerate Religion?*, *Philosophical Review* 123 (2014): 238-241.
- Randolph Clarke, *Omissions: Agency, Metaphysics, and Responsibility* (with Dana Kay Nelkin), *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, 02.33.2015. <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/55987-omissions-agency-metaphysics-and-responsibility/>
- Fiona Woollard, *Doing and Allowing Harm*, *Ethics* 126 (2016): 862-866.

Don Garrett (ed.), *Mary Shepherd's An Essay upon the Relation of Cause and Effect*,
Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews, 2/2/2026,
<https://ndpr.nd.edu/reviews/mary-shepherds-an-essay-upon-the-relation-of-cause-and-effect/>

Film Reviews

The Adjustment Bureau (with Dana K. Nelkin), *The Philosophers' Magazine* 54 (2011): 112-113.

Presentations (Refereed)

"The Semantic Function of Chained Pronouns," Florida Philosophical Association, November 1995.

"Is Kripke's Puzzle About Belief Self-Defeating?" Colloquium, Pacific Division APA, March 1998.

"How to Avoid the Third Man," Colloquium, Eastern Division APA, December 1998; Florida Philosophical Association, November 1998.

"Locke on the Freedom to Will," Southeastern Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Duke University, November 1999.

"Are Propositional Attitude Reports Context-Sensitive?" Colloquium, Central Division APA, April 2000.

"Is Locke's Theory of Knowledge Inconsistent?" Colloquium, Pacific Division APA, March 2005.

"The Relation between Anti-Abstractionism and Idealism in Berkeley's Metaphysics," Colloquium, Southwest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, UCSD, February 2007.

Presentations (Invited)

"*Sinn* Without Guilt," Colloquium, University of Florida, November 1995.

"Kant's Contradiction-in-Conception Test," Colloquium, Florida State University, September 1996.

"Locke on Primary and Secondary Qualities," Colloquium, University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, February 1997.

“How Parmenides Saved the Theory of Forms,” Colloquium, Florida State University, October 1997.

“Religious Arguments and the Duty of Civility,” Faculty Seminar, Florida State University School of Law, March 2000.

“Why There is No Cartesian Circle,” Colloquium, University of Virginia, January 2001.

“The Cartesian Fallacy Fallacy,” Colloquium, UCSD, November 2001.

“Ethical Considerations in the Medical Care of Convicts,” Public Lecture, UCSD Center for the Humanities: Dialogues in Medicine Series, May 2002.

Comments on Gideon Yaffe’s Liberty Worth the Name: Locke on Free Agency, Author Meets Critics session, Southern California Philosophy Conference, UC Irvine, October 2002.

Comments on Benjamin Hill, “Locke’s Ideational Definition of Knowledge and Knowing Idea-Independent Reality,” Colloquium, Pacific Division APA, March 2004.

“Is Locke’s Theory of Knowledge Inconsistent?” Colloquium, University of California, Riverside, October 2004.

Comments on Paul Hoffman, “Locke on the Locked Room,” Colloquium, Southern California Philosophy Conference, UC Irvine, October 2004.

Comments on Cheshire Calhoun, “Polygamy and Same-Sex Marriage,” Conference on the Meaning of Marriage, USD Institute for Law and Philosophy, January 2005.

“Berkeley’s Argument for Idealism,” Colloquium, University of California, Santa Barbara, May 2006; Colloquium, Third Biennial Margaret Dauler Wilson Conference, UCSD, June 2006; Colloquium, Charles University, Prague, July 2010.

“Descartes on Atomism,” Public Lecture for the undergraduate honors program, University of Utah, January 2007.

“The Right to Privacy Unveiled,” Colloquium, University of Utah, January 2007; USD Institute for Law and Philosophy Roundtable, April 2007.

“The Relation Between Anti-Abstractionism and Idealism in Berkeley’s Metaphysics,” Invited Session, Eastern Division APA, International Berkeley Society Group Meeting, December 2007; International Berkeley Conference commemorating the 300th anniversary of the publication of the *Treatise Concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge*, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, April 2010.

- “Berkeley’s Master Argument,” Invited Session, International Berkeley Society Meeting, Newport, Rhode Island, June 2008; revised and extended version presented at a Colloquium, Cornell University, September 2009, and at a Colloquium, UCSD, April 2011.
- “Defining the Sophist,” Invited Session, 14th Arizona Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy, University of Arizona, February 2009; Colloquium, University of California, Irvine, February 2009.
- “Jolley on Locke on Primary and Secondary Qualities,” Conference in honor of Nicholas Jolley, UC Irvine, June 2009.
- “Berkeley on the Perception of Sensible Objects,” Thomas Rukavina History of Philosophy Lecture, Gonzaga University, April 2010; International Berkeley Society Conference, Zurich, Switzerland, June 2011.
- “The Semantics of Proper Names,” Colloquium, University of Bologna, July 2010.
- “Three Cheers for Double Effect” (with Dana K. Nelkin), Workshop on Doing Harm, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris, France, July 2011.
- “Georges Dicker’s *Berkeley’s Idealism: A Critical Examination*,” Author Meets Critics Symposium, Central Division APA, February 2012.
- “Enabling Harm and Global Poverty,” Workshop on Enabling Harm, University of Oslo, June 2012.
- “Are Locke’s Persons Substances?” Conference in memory of Roger Woolhouse, University of York, June-July 2012.
- “So Close, Yet So Far: Why Solutions to the Closeness Problem for the Doctrine of Double Effect Fall Short”, Colloquium, University of California, Riverside, April 2013.
- “Locke’s Qualities Revisited,” Symposium Presentation, Central Division APA, February 2014.
- “Hume on the Distinction Between Impressions and Ideas”, New York/New Jersey Research Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, New York, October 2014; Seoul Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, June 2015; University of Missouri St. Louis, October 2015.
- “Locke’s Ontology of Relations,” Locke Workshop, Yale University, October 2014.

- “Berkeley’s Argument for Idealism”, seminar discussion, Harvard University, March 2015; webinar discussion, University of Western Ontario, December 2015 (URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGEHP2VOPc>); public lecture, Trinity Long Room Hub, Trinity College Dublin, March 2016.
- “A Transcendental Argument for Liberalism,” Law and Religion Conference, Liberalism and Toleration, USD Institute for Law and Religion, February 2016.
- Comments on Amie Thomasson, “Norms and Necessity”, conference on metaphysics and its history, University of Colorado Boulder, March 2016.
- “An Inclusive Pedagogy for the History of Philosophy”, conference on New Narratives in Philosophy, Duke University, April 2016.
- Comments on Matt Zwolinski, “Exploitation and Neglect”, conference on exploitation, University of San Diego, April 2016.
- “The Nature of Self-Defense”, conference on self-defense (with a focus on the work of Uwe Steinhoff), USD School of Law, November 2016.
- “Is Shepherd’s Pen Mightier Than Berkeley’s Word?”, Invited Session, Eastern Division APA, International Berkeley Society Group Meeting, January 2017.
- “Moral Responsibility for Unwitting Omissions: A New Tracing View”, Brandeis University, March 2017.
- “Plato’s *Parmenides* Revisited”, Conference on Plato’s *Parmenides*, Federal University of Santa Maria, Brazil, October 2017.
- Comments on Margaret Atherton, “The Place of Berkeley’s Idealism in his Immaterialism”, Conference on Issues in Modern Philosophy, New York University, November 2017.
- “Paganism is Dead, Long Live Secularism,” Conference on Steven D. Smith’s *Pagans and Christians in the City*, USD School of Law, December 2017.
- “The Rule of Law and Legal Interpretation,” Center for Ethics, Philosophy, and Public Affairs, University of St. Andrews, Scotland, April 2018; Union College, October 2019.
- “Berkeley’s Criticisms of Shaftesbury and Hutcheson,” Conference on George Berkeley, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Mexico City, Mexico, May 2018; Irish Philosophy in the Age of Berkeley Conference, Trinity College, Dublin, April 2019.

- “The Simplest Possible Explanation of Hume’s Recantation,” Harvard Early Modern Philosophy Workshop, Tahoe City, California, May 2018.
- “Locke on the Probability of Mind’s Immateriality,” Workshop on the Mind-Body Problem in the Early Modern Period, École Normale Supérieure, Paris, France, January 2019.
- “Berkeley’s Windowed Monads,” Conference on George Berkeley’s Theory of Mind, University of York, April 2019.
- “Virtue and the Standing to Blame,” Workshop on the Standing to Blame, University of Edinburgh, April 2019.
- “Hume’s Recantation: The Real Story,” Faculty Colloquium, Stanford University, October 2020; Simon Fraser University, February 2021.
- “A Theory of Legal Adjudication,” Law and Philosophy Workshop, UCLA Law School, November 2021; KJuris Colloquium, King’s College London, October 2024.
- “Locke on Free Will and Epistemic Responsibility,” Philosophy in Assos, Turkey, July 2022.
- “Conscience or Disobedience? Comments on Dov Fox’s ‘The Lopsided Law of Medical Conscience’”, Conference on The Role of Conscience in the Practice of Medicine and the Rule of Law, Sanford Consortium, November 2022.
- “The Trolley Problem,” Oxford Union Debate (with Roger Crisp), Oxford, April 2023.
- “Five Questions about the Role of the Hegemonic in Cudworth’s Theory of Freedom and Moral Responsibility,” University of Toronto, June 2024.
- “Four Challenges to Cudworth’s Theory of Freedom and Moral Responsibility,” University of York, October 2024; Human Abilities Centre, Berlin, April 2025.
- “The Moral Status of Enabling Harm Revisited,” Roma Tre University, Rome, May 2025; Corpus Christi College, Oxford, June 2025; Keynote Address, Philosophy Day, California State University Long Beach, December 2025
- “Does Mary Astell Think that Marriage is a Form of Slavery?” University of York, Workshop on Slavery, Figurative and Literal, in Early Modern Philosophy, May 2025.

Conferences Organized

War Ethics, UCSD (Speakers: Helen Frowe, Adil Haque, Seth Lazar, Larry May, Jeff McMahan, David Rodin, Nancy Sherman, Victor Tadros), March 1-2, 2013.

The Ethics and Law of Omissions (with Dana Kay Nelkin), UCSD (Speakers: Randolph Clarke, Douglas Husak, Carolina Sartorio, George Sher, Holly Smith, Matthew Talbert, Gideon Yaffe, Michael Zimmerman), April 17-18, 2015.

Fellowships, Scholarships, and Grants

Marshall Scholarship; 1986-88 (Balliol College: Oxford)

Humanities Fellowship, UCLA; 1991-92

Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA; 1994-95

Chancellor's Summer Faculty Fellowship, UCSD; 2001

Hellman Fellowship, UCSD; 2002-03

Research Grant, UC Academic Senate, San Diego Division; Summer 2002

Research Grant, UC Academic Senate, San Diego Division; Summer 2003

Research Grant, UC Academic Senate, San Diego Division; Summer 2004

UCSD Center for the Humanities, Humanities Faculty Fellowship; Fall 2004

Research Grant, UC Academic Senate, San Diego Division; Summer 2005

Research Grant, UC Academic Senate, San Diego Division; Summer 2008

Research Grant, UC Academic Senate, San Diego Division; Summer 2014

Research Grant, UC Academic Senate, San Diego Division; 2018-19

Research Grant, UC Academic Senate, San Diego Division; 2019-20

Frontiers of Innovation Scholars Program (FISP) Grant [co-PIs: Dana Kay Nelkin (Philosophy) and Nicholas Christenfeld (Psychology)], UCSD, \$50,000, 2016-2017

Chancellor's Research Excellence Scholarship (CRES) Grant [co-PIs: Dana Kay Nelkin (Philosophy) and Nicholas Christenfeld (Psychology)], UCSD, \$25,000, 2018-2019

Awards

University Teaching Award, Florida State University; 1999-2000

Outstanding Faculty Award, Thurgood Marshall College, UCSD, June 2008

Chancellor's Associates Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, UCSD, April 2010

Warren College Faculty Service Award, UCSD, June 2010

Languages

French (fluent), German (reading knowledge), Latin (reading knowledge)

Courses Taught (at UCLA, FSU, UCSD, KOREA UNIVERSITY)

Graduate Level

- * Mary Astell
- * The Ethics of Risk (with Dana Kay Nelkin)
- * Eighteenth Century European Moral Sentimentalism
- * Shepherd, Berkeley, and Hume
- * Locke's Philosophy
- * Legal Interpretation
- * Kripke (with Jonathan Cohen)
- * The Metaphysics and Ethics of Omissions (with Dana Kay Nelkin)
- * The History of Ethics from Shaftesbury to Kant
- * The Semantics of Knowledge Attributions
- * Paradoxes (Proseminar)
- * The Doctrine of Doing and Allowing and the Doctrine of Double Effect (with Dana Kay Nelkin)
- * Hume's *Treatise* (with Don Rutherford)
- * Berkeley's Metaphysics
- * Plato's *Parmenides*
- * Locke's *Essay*
- * Kant's *Groundwork*
- * Singular Terms
- * Propositional Attitude Reports
- * Non-Consequentialism
- * The Problem of Material Constitution
- * Introduction to Philosophical Methods (Proseminar)
- * Preliminary Examination Preparation (Epistemology)
- * Preliminary Examination Preparation (Ethics)

Upper Division

- * The Meaning of Life
- * Freedom, Equality, and the Law
- * Early Modern Philosophy
- * Plato
- * The Empiricists (Locke, Berkeley, Hume)
- * Philosophy of Mind
- * Knowledge and Scepticism
- * Symbolic Logic
- * The Limits of Beneficence (Seminar for Philosophy Majors)

Lower Division

- * Philosophy and the Rise of Modern Science
- * Paradoxes (Freshman Seminar)

- * Introduction to Philosophy
- * Ethics and Society
- * Dimensions of Culture 2: Justice
- * Descartes's *Meditations* (Freshman Honors Seminar)
- * Life's Dominion (Freshman Seminar)
- * Introduction to the Philosophy of Science
- * Biomedical Ethics
- * Reasoning and Critical Thinking

Graduate Advising

Subin Park: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2025-present
 Min Heo: Philosophy, Ph.D., co-chair, 2024-present
 Ahmed Siddiqi: Philosophy, Ph.D. co-chair, 2022-present
 Zack Brants: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2021-2025
 Jacob Zellmer: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2021-2025
 Leonardo Moauro: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2019-2023
 Lauren Perry: Philosophy (SFU), M.A. Examiner, December 2020
 Aaron Finley: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2017-2021
 Arseny Ryazanov, Psychology, Ph.D. committee, 2017-2019
 Chirag Barai: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2017-2019
 Craig Agule: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2013-2017
 Andrew Wong: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2013-2017
 Kenneth Pearce: Philosophy (USC), Ph.D. committee, 2011-2014
 Nate Rockwood: Philosophy, Chair, Ph.D. committee, 2011-2014
 Daniel Schwartz: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2010-2014
 Erin Frykholm: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2009-2011
 Gary Hartenburg: Philosophy (UC Irvine), Ph.D. committee, 2006-2010
 Kristen Irwin: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2005-2010
 Dale Dorsey: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2005-2007
 Luke Robinson: Philosophy, Ph.D. committee, 2001-2005
 Peter Edwards: Music, Ph.D. committee, 2004-2005

Matthew Brown: Phil 290, Independent Study (Plato and Protagoras on Relativism), Fall 2004
 Nellie Wieland: Phil 290, Independent Study (*Insensitive Semantics*), Winter 2006

Erin Frykholm: Phil 290, Independent Study (Moral Sentimentalism and Rationalism before Hume), Fall 2006.
 Jonathan Knutzen: Phil 290, Independent Study (the Doctrine of Doing and Allowing and the Doctrine of Double Effect), Winter 2016
 Shawn Wang: CRES Grant Supervision (The Psychological and Philosophical Foundations of Probabilistic Moral Principles), 2018-2019
 Jacob Zellmer: Phil 290, Independent Study (Descartes), Winter 2020

Min Heo: Phil 295, Independent Study (Leibniz and Locke), Spring 2022
 Min Heo: Phil 295, Independent Study (Leibniz on Causation), Fall 2022
 Leo Moauro, Bas Tönissen, Max Edwards, Claudi Brink (Early Modern Women Philosophers), Fall 2022
 Min Heo: Phil 295, Independent Study (Leibniz on Causation), Winter 2023
 Min Heo: Phil 295, Independent Study (Leibniz on Causation), Spring 2023
 Karina Ortiz Villa: Phil 295, Independent Study (Locke on Consent and Political Obligation), Spring 2023
 Karina Ortiz Villa: Phil 295, Independent Study (Locke on Slavery and Conquest), Spring 2024

Undergraduate Advising

Annie Pan: Phil 199, Independent Study (Plato's *Parmenides*), Fall 2003
 Shawn Burns: Honors Thesis (Leibniz v. Locke on Innate Ideas), Fall 2004-Winter 2005
 Andre Niemeyer: Honors Thesis (Reference Change and Proper Names), Fall 2005-Winter 2006
 Nicholas Straub, Independent Study (Enabling Harm), Fall 2012
 Nicholas Straub, Independent Study (Berkeley's Idealism), Fall 2013
 Christopher Brigante, Thurgood Marshall College Mentor, 2013-2014
 Jacky To, Phil 199, Independent Study (The Classical Liberal Constitution), Spring 2017
 Michael Alvarez, McNair Scholar (The Meaning of Life), Winter-Spring, 2019
 Nicholas Hill, Independent Study (Malebranche on freedom and sin), Fall 2019

Departmental Activities

Florida State University

Faculty Advisory Committee, 1999-2000
 Werkmeister Conference Committee, 1996-97, 1998-99
 Graduate Program Committee, 1996-97
 Graduate Admissions Committee, 1996, 1998
 Library Liaison, 1996-2000
 Chair, Epistemology Preliminary Examination Committee, 1997-2001
 Member, Ethics Preliminary Examination Committee, 1998-2001
 Faculty Recruitment Committee, 1997-98, 1998-99

UCSD

Coach, UC San Diego Ethics Bowl Team, Fall 2018 (California Regional tournament)
 Coach, UC San Diego Ethics Bowl Teams, Fall 2019 (California Regional tournament)
 Coach, UC San Diego Ethics Bowl Team 1, Winter 2020 (National Tournament)
 Coach, UC San Diego Ethics Bowl Team, Fall 2021 (California Regional Tournament)
 Coach, UC San Diego Ethics Bowl Team, Winter 2022 (National Tournament – reached quarter-finals)

Coach, UC San Diego Ethics Bowl Team, Fall 2022 (California Regional Tournament)
 Coach, UC San Diego Ethics Bowl Team, Winter 2023 (National Tournament)
 Coach, UC San Diego Ethics Bowl Team, Fall 2023 (California Regional Tournament –
 team withdrawn from the tournament due to illness)
 Search Committee, Assistant Professor in Social/Political Philosophy, Fall-Winter
 2022-2023
 Search Committee, Allison Chair in the History of Philosophy, Fall-Winter 2021-2022
 Search Committee, Assistant Professor in the History of Philosophy, Fall-Winter 2021-
 2022
 Search Committee Chair (Non-Canonical Philosophy), Fall-Winter 2016-2017
 Reviewer, Graduate Student Essay Prize, 2014; 2015; 2016; 2018; 2022; 2023
 Search Committee, Allison Chair in the History of Philosophy, Fall-Winter 2013-2014
 Search Committee Chair (LPSOE), Fall-Winter 2012-2013
 Placement Committee, Fall 2011
 Acting Director of Graduate Studies, Fall 2010
 Colloquium Committee, 2006-2007
 Search Committee, 2002-03; 2003-04; 2005-06
 Acting Undergraduate Advisor, Fall 2009
 Graduate Admissions Committee, 2003-04; 2010-11; 2019-20
 History Graduate Admissions Committee, 2020-21; 2021-22; 2022-23
 Value Graduate Admissions Committee, 2021-22, 2023-24
 History of Philosophy Roundtable, co-organizer, 2003-04
 Lounge Journals Czar and UCSD Library Liaison, 2003-present
 Department Library Shelving Coordinator, September 2021
 Participant, Symposium on the Death of Socrates (with Peter Atterton), Undergraduate
 Philosophy Club, November 2003
 Reviewer, Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, April 2004; April 2005; April 2009;
 April 2021
 Reviewer, Undergraduate Honors Thesis, International Studies Department, May 2017

University Activities

Florida State University

Faculty Senator, 1996-2001

UCSD

Philosophy Department Chair, 2025-2028

Academic Senate Committee on Privilege and Tenure, 2021-2022, 2022-2023,
 2023-2024

Director, Program in Law and Society, 2018-2023

Academic Integrity Review II Presiding Officer, 2020-2021

Holistic Evaluation Working Group, Winter-Spring 2019

Reviewer of Warren Writing Program Director, Winter 2019

Consulted with the Director of Compliance at the Office of Ethics, Compliance and Audit
 Services, UC Office of the President, Ethical Values Compliance Briefing, 2018

Academic Senate Undergraduate Council, chair, 2017-2018
 Academic Senate Undergraduate Council, member, 2016-2017
 Reviewer of Unit 18 Lecturer, Warren College, 2016
 Warren College Executive Committee of the Faculty, 2013-2016
 Academic Integrity Review Board, 2013-2014, 2016-2017
 Warren Writing Advisory Committee, 2012-2013
 Academic Senate Subcommittee on Research, 2010-2011
 Committee on the Campus Free Speech Rights of Non-Affiliates, 2008-2009
 Search Committee, Katzin Chair in Jewish Civilization, 2006-2007, 2011-2012
 Academic Dishonesty Hearing Board, Alternate Member, 2005-2011
 CEP Subcommittee on Subject A Appeals, Member, 2003-2006, 2009-2010
 CEP Subcommittee on Subject A Appeals, Chair, 2006-2007
 Faculty Advisor, Program in Law and Society, 2003-2018
 Faculty Affiliate, Research Ethics Program, 2004-2025

External Activities

American Philosophical Association, Committee on Lectures, Publications, and Research, 2017-2020
 American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Program Committee, 2011-2014

Refereeing

History of Philosophy Quarterly (editorial consultant, 2014-2016)
Blackwell Philosophy Compass (section editor: history of modern philosophy, 2005-2015)
Social Theory and Practice (member of editorial board, 1996-2001; member of advisory board, 2001-2018)

American Philosophical Quarterly; Analysis; Analytic Philosophy; Ancient Philosophy; Apeiron; Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie; Australasian Journal of Philosophy; Berkeley Studies; Blackwell Philosophy Compass; Blackwell Publishers; Bloomsbury; British Journal for the History of Philosophy; Canadian Journal of Philosophy; Canadian Philosophical Association; Criminal Law and Philosophy; Dialogue; Ethics; European Journal of Philosophy; History of Philosophy Quarterly; Inland Northwest Topics in Philosophy; Journal of Applied Philosophy; Journal of Ethics; Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy; Journal of the History of Philosophy; Journal of Modern Philosophy; Journal of Moral Philosophy; Journal of Philosophical Research; Journal of Social Philosophy; Legal Theory; Locke Studies; Mind; The Monist; Noûs; Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy; Oxford Studies in Early Modern Philosophy; Oxford University Press; Pacific Philosophical Quarterly; Philosophers' Imprint; Philosophia; Philosophical Psychology; Philosophical Quarterly; Philosophical Review; Philosophical Studies; Philosophy and Phenomenological Research; Res Publica; Revue de

Métaphysique et de Morale; Routledge; Social Theory and Practice; Southern Journal of Philosophy; Southwest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy; Synthese; Utilitas.

Promotion review (2011); Promotion review (2012); Tenure review (2013); Tenure review (2016); Promotion review (2016); Promotion Review (2018); Leverhulme Prize Recommendation (2017); Promotion Review (2018); Promotion Review (2018); Tenure Review (2019); Promotion Review (2022); Tenure Review (2022); Tenure Review (2023); Tenure Review (2023); Tenure Review (2023); Promotion Review (2023); Member of Habilitation Jury, Sorbonne University, France (2025).

Community and Society

Guest Lectures

Kearny High School, "Terrorism and Civil Liberties," March 2005
 Amnesty International UCSD, Human Rights Awareness Week, Discussion of Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp, May 2008
 Kearny High School, "Consequentialism vs. Non-Consequentialism," May 2009, April 2010, May 2011, May 2012, May 2013, June 2014, April 2015, May 2016
 High Tech High School, "Consequentialism vs. Non-Consequentialism," May 2013 (given twice, to two different classes); May 2015
 High Tech High School, "Aristotle on Happiness," February 2014 (given twice, to two different classes)
 High Tech High Media Arts, "Due Process and Equal Protection: 1868-1938," May 2014 (given twice, to two different classes)
 High Tech High School, "*Griswold* and the Right to Privacy", March 2015 (given twice, to two different classes)
 High Tech High Media Arts, "Consequentialism vs. Non-Consequentialism", May 2015 (given twice, to two different classes)
 High Tech High School, "Berkeley's Argument for Idealism," January 2017
 High Tech High School, "What College Professors Expect of their Students", January 2017; January 2019
 High Tech High School, "Hobbes's Argument for the Social Contract," April 2017 (given twice, to two different classes)
 High Tech High School, "Jared Diamond on Vengeance and the State of Nature," April 2017 (class discussion with two different classes)
 High Tech High Chula Vista, "What Makes Life Worth Living?" January 2019 (class discussion with two different classes)
 High Tech High Mesa, "The Meaning of life" October 2020 (class discussion on zoom, 56 ninth-graders)
 UCSD Family Weekend, "Are We All Moral Monsters?" October 2010
 Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, "Are We All Moral Monsters?" October 2011
 Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, "Moral Dilemmas", October 2015
 Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, "Legal Interpretation Meets the Philosophy of

Language”, May 2016
 Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, “Case Studies in Legal Interpretation: The Equal Protection and Due Process Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment”, five lecture master class, February-March 2017.
 Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, “Does the Foreign Emoluments Clause Apply to the President of the United States?”, July 2019
 Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, “The Meaning of Life,” five lecture master class, February-March 2022
 Veritas Forum, UC San Diego, “Why Are We Here?”, discussion on the meaning of life, Price Center Ballroom, April 2017
 Sam’s Salon, San Diego Repertory Theatre, discussion of the nature of good and evil ahead of a performance of *Hand to God*, October 2017.
 Honoring Academic Integrity Event, UCSD, “The Ethics of Academic Integrity,” April 2011

Letters and Op-Ed Pieces

Contribution to an article in the La Jolla Light, “‘Does not mean abolishing’: UCSD Professors break down the phrase ‘Defund the police,’” June 23, 2020:
<https://www.lajollalight.com/news/story/2020-06-23/does-not-mean-abolishing-ucsd-professors-break-down-the-phrase-defund-the-police>
 Opinion Piece, “Big Business Running on Fumes When it Comes to Ethics”, San Diego Union-Tribune, October 1, 2015:
<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/2015/oct/01/volkswagen-ethics-scandal/>
 Letter to the New York Times, “No Right to Anonymity,” September 22, 2011.
http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/23/opinion/no-right-to-anonymity.html?_r=1

Other

Judge, Regional High School Ethics Bowl, Chapman University, February 2019
 Judge, Moot Court, First Annual Coastal Classic Invitational Tournament, October 2022 (bench brief focusing on Fourth Amendment and Eighth Amendment issues)

Professional Memberships

American Philosophical Association 1994-present
 American Association of University Professors 1996-present
 International Berkeley Society 2005-present
 Hume Society 2010-present
 Society for Modern Philosophy 2013-present
 Society for Exact Philosophy 1998-2003
 Florida Philosophical Association 1996-2001
 Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy 1998-2014