

Jeffrey Kaplan

Curriculum Vitae

Current as of February 26th, 2024

EDUCATION

PhD **University of California, Berkeley**, Philosophy, 2018

MPhil **University of Cambridge**, Philosophy, 2011

BA **Williams College**, Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, 2009

EXPERIENCE

University of North Carolina, Greensboro

Associate Professor of Philosophy, 2024 (early tenure) - present

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 2019 - 2024

UNCG Prison Education Program, Butner Federal Prison

Founder and Director, 2022 - present

Prison University Project, San Quentin State Prison (now called: Mount Tamalpais College)

Volunteer Instructor, in person 2013 - 2016, and by correspondence during COVID-19 pandemic

AREAS OF RESEARCH AND TEACHING

Areas of Specialization: Philosophy of Law, Value Theory, Philosophy of Language

Areas of Competence: Early Modern Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind, Metaphysics, Ethics

PUBLICATIONS

“The Normativity of Meaning Without the Normativity”, *Inquiry* forthcoming.

“A New Problem for Rules”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 107(3): 671-691 (2023).

“The Structure of Semantic Norms”, *Analytic Philosophy* 64(4): 373-391 (2023).

“The Internal Point of View”, *Law and Philosophy* 42(3): 211-236 (2023).

“In Defense of Hart’s Supposedly-Refuted Theory of Rules”, *Ratio Juris* 34(4): 331-355 (2021).

“Speech, Mockery, and Sincere Concern: An Account of Trolling”, *Public Affairs Quarterly* 35(3): 204-227 (2021).

“Attitude and Social Rules, or Why It’s Okay to Slurp Your Soup”, *Philosophers’ Imprint* 21(28): 1-18 (2021).

“The Problem with Descriptive Correctness”, *Ratio* 33(2): 79-86 (2020).

“Attitude and the Normativity of Law”, *Law and Philosophy* 36(5): 469-493 (2017).

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Oliver Max Gardner Award Campus Nominee, UNC System, 2024

Conferred to one out of over 1,250 eligible faculty at UNCG. The award recognizes faculty who have “made the greatest contributions to the welfare of the human race.” It is the highest faculty honor awarded by the UNC Board of Governors.

MAC Instructor Shoutout Campaign Honoree, UNC Greensboro, 2023

Awarded by students for exceptional instruction of general education courses.

Dean's Award for the Promotion of Diversity & Inclusiveness, UNC Greensboro, 2023

Awarded to one out of the 499 faculty and staff in the College of Arts and Sciences; in recognition of the founding and operation of the UNCG Prison Education Program.

James Y. Joyner Award for Teaching Excellence, UNC Greensboro, 2023

Awarded to one out of 263 tenure-track Assistant Professors at UNCG.

Outstanding First-Year Advocate Award, UNC Greensboro, 2022

Awarded to one out of approximately 3,000 faculty and staff at UNCG; first faculty member to receive the award.

Humanities Teaching Fellow, UC Berkeley, 2017

Awarded to approximately 0.1% of graduate student instructors.

Teaching Effectiveness Award, UC Berkeley, 2017

Awarded to approximately 0.5% of graduate student instructors.

Townsend Dissertation Fellowship, UC Berkeley, 2017

Awarded to six graduate students in the humanities; funding one year of research.

William Fink Prize in Philosophy, UC Berkeley, 2015

Awarded for the best paper by a philosophy graduate student.

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, UC Berkeley, 2015

Awarded to approximately 9% of graduate student instructors.

Dr. Herchel Smith Fellowship, University of Cambridge, 2009

Awarded to six Williams College graduates. Funding two years of graduate work.

John W. Miller Prize in Philosophy, Williams College, 2009

Awarded to “the outstanding philosophy student each year.”

Laszlo G. Versenyi Memorial Prize, Williams College, 2009

Awarded to the best philosophy student pursuing graduate study in philosophy.

Dewey Prize, Williams College, 2009

Awarded by College President and Deans for “most credible oration in point of composition and delivery at the commencement exercises.”

PRESENTATIONS *Blind, peer-reviewed presentations are marked with an asterisk (*). All others are invited.*

“The Empirical/Non-Empirical Distinction”, Philippa Foot Society, Canford School, UK, Jan 2024.

“A Sample of Academic Philosophy”, UNCG Vanguard Presentation to Women’s College Alumnae at Well-Spring Community, Jan 2024.

“About Higher Education in US Prisons”, UNCG Mathematics & Statistics Colloquium, UNC Greensboro, Nov 2023.

“Why Are There Flat Earthers?”, Great Conversation Presentation, UNC Greensboro, Oct 2023.

“Incarceration and Education”, 2023 CAS Dean’s Award for the Promotion of Diversity and Inclusiveness Presentation, UNC Greensboro, Sep 2023.

“Epistemology and Cosmology: An Explanation of Flat Earthers”, UNCG Prison Education Program, Federal Correctional Institution: Butner Medium II, Aug 2023.

“Education in the Carceral System”, HNAC Cafe Panel, UNC Greensboro, Feb 2023.

“Law and Morality”, Faculty of Law, University of Central Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan, Jan 2023.

“Cognition and Study Skills”, UNCG Your First Year Success Series, Jan 2023.

“The Definition of Philosophy”, Vanguard Virtual Alumni Presentation, UNC Greensboro, Oct 2022.

“What is Philosophy?”, UNCG Prison Education Program, Federal Correctional Institution: Butner Medium II, Sep 2023.

“Semantic Power”, North Carolina Philosophical Society, Converse University, SC, Mar 2022.*

“The Paradox at the Core of Math”, Great Conversation Presentation, UNC Greensboro, Apr 2022.

“Philosophy 101: What is Philosophy?”, UNCG Alumni All Access, UNC Greensboro, Apr 2022.

“The Plessy Doctrine and the Logic of Racism, Then and Now” with Marc Elliott, Historical Roots of Our Times lecture series, History Department, UNC Greensboro, Sep 2021.

“A Sample of Philosophy”, UNCG CHANCE Camp for Latinx High School Students, Jul 2021.

“The Problem with Descriptive Correctness”, APA Eastern Division Colloquium Presentation, New York, NY, Jan 2021.*

“What is Philosophy?”, UNCG Online Latinx CHANCE Camp, Aug 2020.

“Does Objective Morality Exist?”, Great Conversation Presentation, UNC Greensboro, Sep 2019.

“What is Philosophy?”, UNCG CHANCE Camp for Latinx High School Students, Jul 2019.

“The Problem with Descriptive Correctness”, North Carolina Philosophical Society, UNC Greensboro, Mar 2019.*

“Princess Elisabeth’s Objections to Descartes”, Grimsley High School IB Philosophy Problem, 2019.

“How to Make a Rule: A Defense of a Supposedly Refuted Theory”, The 11th Biennial Collective Intentionality Conference, Tufts University, 2018.*

“How to Make a Rule: A Defense of a Supposedly Refuted Theory”, Job Talk, UNC Greensboro, 2018.

“A Defense of the Practice Theory”, Eastern APA Poster Session, Savannah, GA.*

“Water Rights and Rule Creation”, MIST Seminar Speaker, UC Merced, 2018.

“A Defense of the Practice Theory”, International Social Ontology Conference, University of Cambridge, 2017.*

“A Defense of the Practice Theory”, Berkeley-London Conference, UC Berkeley, 2017.*

“Normativity and Etiquette”, Guest lecture in John Searle’s Philosophy of Society course, 2016.

“Against the Moral Attitude Constraint”, Northwest Philosophy Conference, Gonzaga University, 2016.*

“Non-Moral Norms”, Work-in-Progress Lunch, UC Berkeley, 2015.

“The Internal Point of View”, Richard Wollheim Society, UC Berkeley, 2014.

“Kripke and Rule Following”, Presentation to Undergraduate Phil Forum, UC Berkeley, 2013.

“Descartes’s Fifth Meditation”, Two guest lectures in Hannah Ginsborg’s Modern Philosophy course, 2013

“Prefaces, Beliefs, and Mere Acceptances”, Berkeley-London Conference, University of London, 2012.*

“Concepts and Empirical Psychology”, Richard Wollheim Society, UC Berkeley, 2011.

“Justified and Unjustified Love”, Reasons of Love International Conference, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, 2011.*

“Williamson and the Supposed Primeness of Knowledge”, Philosophy Graduate Seminar, University of Cambridge, 2010.

“Justified True Belief is Knowledge”, MPhil Seminar, University of Cambridge, 2010.

COURSES TAUGHT

UNC Greensboro

Philosophy of Law
Philosophy of Language
Introduction to Ethics
Introduction to Philosophy
Minds & Brains
Good & Evil

San Quentin State Prison, Prison University Project (now: Mount Tamalpais College)

Landmark US Court Cases (correspondence course during COVID lockdown)
Introduction to Philosophy: Mind-Body Problem
Introduction to Philosophy: Metaphysics
Introduction to Philosophy: Epistemology
Introduction to Philosophy: Early Modern

UC Berkeley

Individual Morality and Social Justice
Hume
Philosophy of Society
Descartes
Philosophy of Language
Philosophical Methods
Introduction to Logic
Modern Philosophy
Nature of Mind
Metaphysics

SELECTED NOTABLE SERVICE (at UNCG)

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Philosophy, Feb 2021 - present

Responsible for undergraduate recruitment, student advising, curriculum development, membership on Undergraduate Studies Council, approval of transfer credits, and general assistance to the Department Head on other matters.

Founder and Director of UNCG Prison Education Program, Sep 2022 - present

Provides academic programming for people incarcerated at *Federal Correctional Institution: Butner Medium II*. Entirely unfunded; staffed exclusively by faculty volunteers.

Member of Chancellor's Task Force on Financial Sustainability, Feb 2023 - May 2023

Charged with identifying cost-saving opportunities in any non-academic area of university operations. Co-Chaired Student and Faculty Success Innovations Subcommittee.

Chair of Academic Policies and Regulations Committee, Feb 2021 - Jul 2022

Wrote and shepherded through Faculty Senate nine resolutions, including the institution of midterm grades and the elimination of an antiquated requirement that prevented students from double majoring across degree programs.

Chair of Ad-hoc Philosophy Curriculum Overhaul Committee, Jan 2020 - Nov 2020

Orchestrated the philosophy department's response to a new general education system that eliminated a philosophy and religion requirement for all undergraduates. The department developed several new courses and successfully avoided a massive dropoff in philosophy course enrollment.

ALL REMAINING SERVICE

Department

Departmental Representative at College of Arts and Science Admitted Students Major Fair, Feb 2022

Student Success Liaison, Oct 2021 - present

Philosophy Department Broadening Curriculum Subcommittee, Mar 2021 - May 2021

Pre-Law Advisor, Jan 2019 - present

Undergraduate Advisor, Oct 2019 - present

Founder and Organizer of Philosophy Department Work-in-Progress Lunches, Sep 2019 - Mar 2020

Presenter at Majors, Minors, and More Fair, Sep 2019

Epistemology/Logic Tenure-Track Search Committee, Spring 2019

Philosophy of Medicine Tenure-Track Search Committee, Spring 2019

Berkeley-Stanford-Davis Conference Submission Reviewer (UC Berkeley), 2016

Graduate Student Instructor Assignment Sub-Committee (UC Berkeley), 2015

New Crop Essay Prize Judge (UC Berkeley), 2013

Graduate Student Representative to the Philosophy Faculty (UC Berkeley), 2012

Prospective Graduate Student Liaison (UC Berkeley), 2012

Co-organizer of Richard Wollheim Society (UC Berkeley), 2011

College

Presentation to Annual Meeting of UNCG CAS Advancement Council, Apr 2022

Panelist on College of Arts and Science Admitted Students Welcome Panel, Feb 2022

Internal Reviewer (representing CAS) for NEH Grant Applications, Aug 2020

Internal Reviewer (representing CAS) for NEH Grant Applications, Aug 2019

University

Co-Chair of University Teaching and Learning Commons (UTLC) Director Search Committee, Dec 2023 - March 2024

Co-Chair of Student and Faculty Success Innovations Subcommittee of Chancellor's Task Force on Financial Sustainability, Mar 2023 - May 2023

UNC System Faculty Assembly - Historically Minority Serving Institution Committee, Oct 2022 - 2023
Faculty Senate Task Force on Student Success, Oct 2022 - 2023
UNC System Faculty Assembly - Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, Sep 2022 - 2023
UNC System Faculty Assembly Alternate Delegate, Aug 2022 - present
Presenter at Welcome Reception for New Faculty, Aug 2022
Chair of Academic Integrity Faculty Advisory Group, Feb 2021 - Jul 2022
Committee of Faculty Senate Committee Chairs, Feb 2021 - Jul 2022
Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Feb 2021 - Jul 2022
Undergraduate Studies Council, Feb 2021 - present
Pre-Law Advisory Committee, Jan 2021 - present
Lightboard Specialist Presenter/Interviewee UTLC, Oct 2020, Nov 2020
Academic Policies and Regulations Committee Member, Aug 2019 - Feb 2021
New Student House Calls, Aug 2019

Profession

Referee for *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, May 2023
Referee for *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, Jan 2023
Referee for *The Journal of Philosophy*, Jul 2022
Referee for *Law and Philosophy*, Jan 2022
Referee for *Theoria*, Feb 2022
Referee for *Law and Philosophy*, Dec 2021
Referee for *Inquiry*, Dec 2021
Referee for *Theoria*, Nov 2021
Referee for *Inquiry*, Jan 2020

Community Service

Faculty Fundraising Volunteer for Mount Tamalpais College, May 2021
Volunteer Creator and Instructor of “Landmark US Court Cases” correspondence course for incarcerated students locked down due to COVID-19 through Mount Tamalpais College, Jan 2021 - May 2021
Author of Supplemental Educational Material on MLK’s ‘Beyond Vietnam’ for incarcerated students in lockdown early in COVID-19 pandemic, Sep 2020
Guest Lecturer and Consultant, Grimsley High School IB Philosophy Program, Feb 2019