

Alexander Dietz

Curriculum Vitae

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RESEARCH

Areas of Specialization: Normative Ethics, Moral Psychology
Areas of Competence: Political Philosophy, Applied Ethics, Metaethics

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Southern California, August 2019 (expected).
Research visitor, Global Priorities Institute, University of Oxford, April – June 2018.
M.A. in Philosophy, Tufts University, February 2013.
B.A. in Political Science and Philosophy, Tufts University, *Summa cum laude*, May 2010.

PUBLICATIONS

Original Articles

“Explaining the Paradox of Hedonism.” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, forthcoming.
“What We Together Ought to Do.” *Ethics*, 126 (2016): 955-982.

Critical Discussions

“Effective Altruism and Collective Obligations.” *Utilitas*, forthcoming.
Review of *Oxford Studies in Normative Ethics, Volume 5*, ed. Mark Timmons. *Journal of Moral Philosophy*, forthcoming.

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

“Are My Temporal Parts Agents?” (R&R at *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*).
“The Bleakness of Telic Subjectivism.”
“Unit-of-Agency Dilemmas.”

PRESENTATIONS

Refereed Paper Presentations

“Effective Altruism and Collective Obligations.”
APA Eastern Division Meeting, January 2019.
“Unit-of-Agency Dilemmas.”
Social Ontology 2018, Tufts University, August 2018.
“The Bleakness of Telic Subjectivism.”
British Society for Ethical Theory, July 2018.

“Effective Altruism and Cooperation.”

PPE Society Meetings, March 2018.

“Explaining the Paradox of Hedonism.”

British Society for Ethical Theory, July 2017.

APA Pacific Division Meeting, April 2017.

APA Eastern Division Meeting, January 2017.

Poster Presentation, Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, August 2016.

“What We Together Ought to Do.”

Groups: Challenges in Contemporary Political Philosophy, University of Rennes,
November 2014.

Collective Intentionality IX, Indiana University, September 2014.

Poster Presentation, Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, August 2014.

Comments

Comments on Travis Timmerman, “Save (Some of) the Children.”

APA Pacific Division Meeting, March 2018.

Comments on Sara Rachel Chant, “Collective Responsibility without Collective
Freedom.”

Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, August 2016.

Comments on Blake Hereth, “How (and How Not) To Be a Luck Prioritarian About
Health.”

APA Pacific Division Meeting, March 2016.

Comments on Ariel Zylberman, “The Dignity of Persons: A Dilemma for Darwall’s
Second-Personal Approach.”

APA Pacific Division Meeting, April 2015.

Comments on Daniel Cohen, “Explaining the Procreation Asymmetry.”

Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, August 2014.

COURSES TAUGHT AS TEACHING ASSISTANT

Current Moral and Social Issues (Jeshion), Fall 2016.

Moral Dilemmas in the Legal Domain (Ross), Spring 2016.

Contemporary Moral and Social Issues (Finlay), Fall 2015.

The Professions and the Public Interest in American Life (Kammas), Spring 2015.

Legal Controversies and Ethical Principles (Marmor), Fall 2014.

Western Political Thought I (Evrigenis), Fall 2012.

Bioethics (Silver), Spring 2012.

War and Terrorism (McPherson), Fall 2011.

Paradoxes (Allen), Spring 2011.

Western Political Thought I (Evrigenis), Fall 2010.

SERVICE

- Referee for *Dialogue*, *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* (x3), *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*.
- Referee, Ethics Essay Contest, Levan Institute for Humanities and Ethics at USC, 2017.
- Discussion leader, Ethics Boot Camp, Levan Institute for Humanities and Ethics at USC, 2016.
- Organizer, USC Ethics Group, February 2014 – July 2015.
- Referee, USC/UCLA Graduate Conference in Philosophy (x4).
- Treasurer, USC Philosophy Graduate Student Association, August 2014 – May 2015.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Gold Family Graduate Fellowship, University of Southern California, Summer 2017.
- Graduate student travel stipend award, APA Pacific Division Meeting, April 2017.
- Russell Endowed Fellowship, University of Southern California, August 2017 – August 2018.
- Graduate student travel stipend award, APA Eastern Division Meeting, January 2017.
- Flewelling Summer Award, University of Southern California, Summer 2016.
- University Provost Fellowship, University of Southern California, August 2013 – August 2018.
- Highest Honors, Senior Honors Thesis, Tufts University, Spring 2010.
- Class of 1942 Prize Scholarship, Tufts University, Spring 2010.
- James Vance Elliot Political Science Prize, Tufts University, Spring 2010.
- Phi Beta Kappa, Spring 2010.
- Pi Sigma Alpha, National Political Science Honor Society, February 2009.
- Book Prize, Pembroke College, University of Oxford, February 2009.

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Value Theory

- Seminar in Social and Political Philosophy (Quong), Spring 2015.
- Proseminar on Value Theory (Schroeder and Watson), Spring 2014.
- Seminar in Philosophy of Law (Marmor), Spring 2014.
- Seminar in Ethics (Finlay), Fall 2013.
- Seminar in Metaethics (McPherson), Spring 2012.
- Contemporary Virtue Ethics (Olfert), Fall 2011.

Language and Logic

- Proseminar on Philosophy of Language (Uzquiano and Soames), Fall 2013.
- Intermediate Symbolic Logic (Easwaran), Fall 2013.
- Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations* (Baz), Spring 2011.

Metaphysics and Epistemology

Philosophy of Social Science (Epstein), Fall 2012.
Formal Epistemology (Forber), Fall 2011.
Epistemology (White), Fall 2010.
Free Will (Dennett), Fall 2010.

Philosophy of Mind

Philosophy of Mind (Levin), Spring 2015.
Independent Study on the Emotions (Wedgwood), Fall 2014.

History of Philosophy

Locke (McCann), Fall 2014.
Ancient Philosophy (Olfert), Fall 2012.
History of Modern Philosophy (Olfert), Fall 2011.

DISSERTATION

“Units of Agency in Ethics.” Committee: Jonathan Quong (chair), Stephen Finlay, Gregory Keating, Mark Schroeder, Ralph Wedgwood

My dissertation rethinks which units of agency should be of relevance to ethics. I argue that obligations and normative reasons for action can be possessed not only by individual persons, but also by larger units, namely groups, and by smaller units, namely the temporal parts of persons. I also defend views about how obligations and reasons for action possessed at different units of agency interact: for example, about when I have reason to do my part in what the group ought to do, and about how there could be irresolvable conflicts between individual and collective obligations.

REFERENCES

Jonathan Quong
Associate Professor of Philosophy and Law
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Ralph Wedgwood
Professor of Philosophy
University of Southern California
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Stephen Finlay (teaching)
Professor of Philosophy
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Mark Schroeder
Professor of Philosophy
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Christopher Woodard
Associate Professor of Philosophy
University of Nottingham
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