

# Michelle M. Dyke

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**RESEARCH:** My work investigates the nature of moral and epistemic normativity.

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:**  
Epistemology, Metaethics, Ethics

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE:**  
Philosophy of Mind, History of Modern Philosophy, Bioethics (including Public Health Ethics)

## POSITIONS HELD

2022-2023	Adjunct Faculty, New York University Dept. of Philosophy
2023-	Adjunct Faculty, The City College of New York, CUNY, Dept. of Philosophy
2022-	Tutor, The Writing Center, The City College of New York, CUNY
2019-2022	Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow, Center for Bioethics (3-year fixed-term) Affiliated Faculty, New York University Dept. of Philosophy
2018-2019	Philosophy Futures Postdoctoral Lecturer, New York University Dept. of Philosophy

## EDUCATION

2018	PhD in Philosophy, New York University
2012	BA in Philosophy, Yale University Awarded <i>cum laude</i> with Distinction in the Major

## PUBLICATIONS

- (forth.) "Relativism" In David Copp and Connie Rosati (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Metaethics*, Oxford University Press
- (forth.) "Instrumentalism about epistemic reasons" and
- (forth.) "Evolutionary debunking arguments"  
In Kurt Sylvan (Ed.), *Blackwell Companion to Epistemology*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Wiley-Blackwell
- (forth.) "Societies as group agents," *Inquiry*, special edition on reductionism about group agency  
Eds. Olof Leffler and Lars Moen
- (2021). Could our epistemic reasons be *collective* practical reasons?  
*Noûs*, 55(4), 842-862. <https://doi.org/10.1017/nous.12335>
- (2020). Bad bootstrapping: The problem with third-factor replies to the Darwinian Dilemma for moral realism.  
*Philosophical Studies*, 177, 2115-2128. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11098-019-01301-4>
- (2020). Group agency meets metaethics: How to craft a more compelling form of normative relativism.  
In Russ Shafer-Landau (Ed.), *Oxford Studies in Metaethics Vol. 15* (pp. 219-240). Oxford University Press.  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/os0/9780198859512.003.0010>

## INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

### **“Debating Evolution & Ethics – Does Evolution Undermine Mind-Independent Morality?”**

with Russ Shafer-Landau

University of Delaware, Dept. of Philosophy  
Newark, DE, March 2020

### **CUNY Graduate Center Colloquium, Philosophy Program**

“Could Our Epistemic Reasons Be *Collective* Practical Reasons?”

New York, NY, October 2019

## PEER-REVIEWED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

### **Central APA (American Philosophical Association) Conference**

Symposium: “Evolutionary Debunking Arguments and the Modal Safety of Our Moral Beliefs”

Boulder, CO, February 2023

### **St. Louis Annual Conference on Reasons and Rationality (SLACRR) 2022**

“Epistemic Blame and Epistemic Instrumentalism”

Hosted by University of Missouri – St. Louis, Washington University in St. Louis, and Saint Louis University  
St. Louis, MO, May 2022

### **European Epistemology Network (EEN) Conference 2020**

“Could Our Epistemic Reasons Be *Collective* Practical Reasons?”

University of Glasgow, U.K. and COGITO Research Group  
(Invited for June 2020, Conference Postponed due to COVID-19)

### **The 4<sup>th</sup> Southampton-Humboldt Normativity Conference**

“Could Epistemic Reasons Be *Collective* Practical Reasons?”

University of Southampton, U.K., June 2019

### **Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics, Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences**

“What Do Lisa, Her College’s Chess Club, and NATO Have in Common? Rethinking What it Takes to Be an Agent”

The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, June 2019

### **Central New York (CNY) Moral Psychology Workshop**

“All Day, Every Day”

Comments from Hille Paakkunainen

Le Moyne College, Syracuse, NY, May 2019

### **The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Madison Metaethics Workshop**

“Group Agency Meets Meta-Ethics: How to Craft a More Compelling Form of Normative Relativism”

University of Wisconsin-Madison, September 2018

### **Social Ontology 2018**

“What do Lisa, her College’s Tango Club, and the US Marine Corps have in Common?”

Rethinking What it Takes to Be an Agent”

Tufts University, Medford, MA, August 2018 i

In cooperation with the International Social Ontology Society

### **The 2018 CEPPA (Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs) Graduate Conference**

“How to Avoid Three Problems for Moral Relativism: Attribute Reasons to Societies as Well as Persons!”

University of St. Andrews, U.K., February 2018

### **The 2017 Harvard-MIT Graduate Conference in Philosophy**

“From Normative Disagreement to Normative Antirealism?”

Harvard University, April 2017

### **The 2017 Great Lakes Philosophy Conference: Ethical Intersections**

“Ethics, Explanation and Attitude-Dependence”

Held in cooperation by Adrian College and Siena Heights University

Adrian, MI, March 2017

**The 2017 University of Oklahoma Graduate Philosophy Conference**  
 “Bad Bootstrapping: The Problem with Third-Factor Responses to Reliability Challenges for Moral Realism”  
 February 2017

## INVITED COMMENTARY

### **Pacific APA (American Philosophical Association) Conference, Colloquium**

Comments on “A Standing Asymmetry Between Blame and Forgiveness” by Kyle Fritz and Daniel Miller  
 Vancouver, Canada, April 2022

### **Central APA Conference, Colloquium: “Actions and Attitudes”**

Comments on “Against Capacity Views of Action and Control” by Malte Hendrickx  
 Chicago, IL, February 2022

### **Eastern APA Conference, Symposium**

Comments on “Normative Inference Tickets” by Jennifer Foster and Jonathan Ichikawa  
 Baltimore, MD, January 2022

### **Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference (RoME) 2021**

Comments on “Contingency, Sociality, and Moral Progress” by Olof Leffler  
 Boulder, CO, August 2021 (session held virtually)

### **Eastern APA Conference, Colloquium**

Comments on “A Quiet Moral Ontology” by Miles Tucker  
 New York, NY, January 2021 (held virtually due to COVID-19)

### **Central APA Conference, Colloquium: Debunking in Epistemology**

Comments on “Third-Factor Defenses of Moral Knowledge” by Luke Kallberg  
 Chicago, IL, February 2020

### **Eastern APA Conference, Colloquium: Ethics of Collectives**

Comments on “Harmless Torturers, Accumulation Cases, and a Solution to the Mismatch Problem” by Robert Gruber  
 New York, NY, January 2019

## COURSES TAUGHT AS SOLE OR PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR (NEW YORK UNIVERSITY)

### UNDERGRADUATE SEMINARS:

Topics in the History of Philosophy: “Philosophy of Mind in the Early Modern and Modern Periods” (Spring 2023)

Great Works in Philosophy (Fall 2022)

Ethics & Identity: Disability, Gender, and Race (2 times: Spring 2020 and Spring 2021)

Topics in Metaphysics & Epistemology: “Moral Epistemology and the Debate Over Moral Realism” (Spring 2019)

Central Problems in Philosophy (Summer 2018)

Philosophy of Mind (Summer 2017)

History of Modern Philosophy (3 times: Summers 2015, 2016, and 2017)

### UNDERGRADUATE LECTURE COURSE:

Central Problems in Philosophy (Fall 2018)

### GRADUATE (MA) SEMINARS:

Advanced Introduction to Bioethics (3 times: Fall 2019, 2020, and 2021)

Topics in Bioethics: Controversies & Politics (3 times: Spring 2020, 2021, and 2022)

Advanced Introduction to Public Health Ethics (2 times: Summer 2020 and Spring 2022)

**SOLE INSTRUCTOR (THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK, CUNY)**

## UNDERGRADUATE:

Introduction to Philosophy (Spring 2023)

**COURSES TAUGHT AS TEACHING ASSISTANT (NEW YORK UNIVERSITY)**

## COLLEGE OF ARTS &amp; SCIENCE CORE CURRICULUM:

Texts & Ideas: Attachment, Loss and the Passage of Time (Spring 2018) for Sharon Street

## UNDERGRADUATE, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT:

History of Modern Philosophy (Spring 2016) for Anja Jauernig

History of Ancient Philosophy (Fall 2015) for Jessica Moss

History of Modern Philosophy (Spring 2015) for Kristin Primus

Existentialism & Phenomenology (Fall 2014) for John Richardson

**MA THESES ADVISED, NYU CENTER FOR BIOETHICS (as primary academic advisor)**

Lacey Campbell (2022)

“Stem Cell Research Empowering Women within the Buddhist Tradition”

Qingxuan Pan (2022)

“Assessing the Social Impact of Granting Political Organizations Conscience Rights”

Jordan Liebman (2022)

“A Thermodynamic Definition of Death”

Rachel Roberts (2022)

“Incarceration and Health: Responsibility and Justice in Public Health”

Corine Astroth (2022)

“Cosmetic Surgery: Justification, Impermissibility, and Physician-Patient Obligations”

Alejandro Suarez (2022)

“Who is a Rightsholder?”

Yasmeen Razack (2022)

“Why Vaccine Surcharges are Justified”

Aurela Dragani (2022)

“The Ethical Issues of Xenotransplantation and Possible Future Regulations”

Samuel Owusu (2021)

“Ethical Implications of the Widespread Use of Informal mHealth Methods in Ghana”

Nicholas Tilmes (2020)

“The Limits of Fair Machine Learning: An Analysis of Structural Ableism in Algorithmic Hiring”

Madeleine Boyle (2020)

“Species Moral Capacity: An Alternative to Moral Individualism”

Joseph Adams (2020)

“To What Extent Can MDMA Facilitate Authentic Interpersonal Intimacy?”

Tania Sleman (2020)

“Conscientious Objection and Physician-Assisted Suicide: The Applications of a Compromise Approach and its Complexities”

Cara Hunt (2020)

“How Do Ethical Risks of Psychiatric AI Impact the Informed Consent Process?”

**PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING**

Workshop on *Teaching Large Lectures*, NYU Center for the Advancement of Teaching (November 29, 2018)

Workshop on *Improving Student Writing*, NYU Center for the Advancement of Teaching (October 5, 2018)

## SERVICE (TO THE UNIVERSITY AND TO THE PROFESSION)

Session Chair, 16<sup>th</sup> (and 17<sup>th</sup>) Annual Madison Metaethics Workshop  
University of Wisconsin-Madison, September 2021 (and September 2022)

Co-Organizer and Co-Founder, NYU Philosophical Bioethics Workshop  
1<sup>st</sup> workshop held virtually, November 2020  
2<sup>nd</sup> workshop held on campus, April 2022

Teaching Excellence Committee, Substitute Member  
NYU School of Global Public Health (Spring 2020)

Session Chair, Pacific APA Conference, Colloquium: Philosophy of Mind (II)  
Seattle, WA, April 2017

Graduate Student Peer Mentor  
NYU Graduate School of Arts and Science (2016-2018)  
NYU Department of Philosophy (2017-2018)

Graduate Assistant, 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Issues in Modern Philosophy: God  
NYU, November 2015

Co-Organizer, Washington Square Circle (2015-2016)  
Organized, in cooperation with one additional graduate student, a monthly forum for the presentation of graduate work in progress in philosophy at NYU

Graduate Student Representative, NYU Department of Philosophy (2013-2014)

Session Chair, Eastern APA Conference, Group Session Meeting of The Hume Society  
Baltimore, MD, December 2013

Organizing Committee Member, Columbia-NYU Graduate Conference in Philosophy  
NYU, April 2013

## VOLUNTEER OUTREACH IN NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

High School for Environmental Studies, New York City (Fall 2018 and 2019 in person, Fall 2020 virtually)  
Led small-group classroom discussions of issues in applied ethics as part of a team of 3-4 visiting volunteers from NYU

“Corrupt the Youth,” East Side Community High School, New York City (Spring 2019)  
Participated in the team-teaching of an elective course in philosophy for high school students, following the “Corrupt the Youth” curriculum (a reference to Socrates) directed by Briana Toole: <https://www.corrupttheyouth.org>

Judge, New York City High School Ethics Bowl, <https://highschoolethicsbowl.com>, held at  
High School for Environmental Studies (January 2020)  
Columbia Teachers College (January 2019)  
New York University (January 2018)  
Columbia University (February 2017)

## REFEREE

*Analysis, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Erkenntnis, Journal of Ethics & Social Philosophy, The Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Ratio, Synthese*

Oxford University Press

## AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Award from Adjunct Faculty Professional Development Fund, NYU Faculty of Arts and Science, Fall 2022  
NYU Faculty of Arts and Science Postdoctoral Travel Grant, Spring 2019

- Awarded preferentially to those “with an established track record of effort to diversify the academy”

Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, 2017-2018  
NYU Graduate School of Arts and Science Dean's Student Travel Grant, Spring 2018  
NYU Graduate School of Arts and Science Dean's Student Travel Grant, Spring 2017  
New York Institute of Philosophy Conference Grant, Spring 2017  
NYU Department of Philosophy Student Travel Grant, Spring 2014  
MacCracken Fellowship for Doctoral Study at NYU, 2012-2017

## REFERENCES

### **Paul Boghossian**

Silver Professor of Philosophy  
New York University  
5 Washington Place  
New York, NY 10003  
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### **Sharon Street**

Professor of Philosophy  
New York University  
5 Washington Place  
New York, NY 10003  
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### **Russ Shafer-Landau**

Professor of Philosophy  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
600 N. Park Street  
Madison, WI 53706  
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### **Paul Horwich**

Professor of Philosophy  
New York University  
5 Washington Place  
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### **S. Matthew Liao**

Arthur Zitrin Professor of Bioethics  
Director, Center for Bioethics  
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Last updated October 20, 2022