Michelle M. Dyke

Rm 04, Department of Philosophy, Tufts University
Miner Hall, 14 Upper Campus Road, Medford, MA 02155
Cell Phone: (978) 9zz-xyxy
michelle.dyke@tufts.edu | www.michellemdyke.net

RESEARCH: I study normativity - both moral and epistemic. My work explores the social origins of our moral obligations and the requirements of rationality for belief.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:
Ethics, Metaethics, Epistemology

AREAS OF COMPETENCE:
History of Early Modern European Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind, Bioethics

EMPLOYMENT

Tufts University

2023-	Lecturer, part-time, Dept. of Philosophy

The City College of New York, CUNY

2023	Adjunct Faculty, Dept. of Philosophy
2022-2023	Writing Tutor, The Writing Center

New York University

2022-2023	Adjunct Faculty, Dept. of Philosophy
2019-2022	Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow (fixed term), NYU Center for Bioethics
2018-2019	Postdoctoral Lecturer, Dept. of Philosophy

EDUCATION

New York University

2018	PhD in Philosophy

Yale University

2012	BA in Philosophy, *Cum laude* with Distinction in the Major

PUBLICATIONS

9. (forth.) Do we blame AI? Implications for the debate over epistemic and moral blame. *Southwest Philosophy Review, 42*(1).

8. (2024). Epistemic instrumentalism and the problem of epistemic blame. *Synthese, 204*(110), 1-18. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-024-04766-x

7. (forth.) Instrumentalism about epistemic rationality.
6. (forth.) Evolutionary debunking arguments.
   Both In Kurt Sylvan (Ed.), *Blackwell Companion to Epistemology*, 3rd Edition, Wiley-Blackwell.

5. (forth.) Relativism. In David Copp and Connie Rosati (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Metaethics*, Oxford University Press.

4. (2023). Societies as group agents. In Olof Leffler & Lars Moen (Eds.), *Inquiry*, special volume on Group Agency. https://doi.org/10.1080/0020174X.2023.2223684

3. (2021). Could our epistemic reasons be *collective* practical reasons? *Noûs, 55*(4), 842-862. https://doi.org/10.1111/nous.12335

2. (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

1. (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/oso/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

"Could Our Epistemic Reasons Be *Collective* Practical Reasons?"
CUNY Graduate Center Colloquium, Philosophy Program
New York, NY, October 2019

PEER-REVIEWED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

"Is Berkeley's God a Deceiver?"
The International Berkeley Society
Eastern APA (American Philosophical Association) Conference
Baltimore, MD, January 2026

"Do We Blame AI? Implications for the Debate Over Epistemic and Moral Blame"
Southwestern Philosophical Society
Savannah, GA, November 2025

Central New York (CNY) Moral Psychology Workshop
Le Moyne College
Syracuse, NY, November 2025

Conference: The effects of LLMs in digital and virtual environments on TOM
University of Bucharest
September 2025 (online)

International Conference on Ethics of Artificial Intelligence
University of Porto, Portugal
July 2025 (online)

Symposium: "Evolutionary Debunking Arguments and the Modal Safety of Our Moral Beliefs"
Central APA Conference
With Comments from Sharon Berry and Dustin Locke
Boulder, CO, February 2023

"Epistemic Blame and Epistemic Instrumentalism"
St. Louis Annual Conference on Reasons and Rationality (SLACRR) 2022
Hosted by University of Missouri – St. Louis, Washington University in St. Louis, and Saint Louis University
St. Louis, MO, May 2022

"Could Our Epistemic Reasons Be *Collective* Practical Reasons?"
European Epistemology Network (EEN) Conference 2020
University of Glasgow, U.K. and COGITO Research Group
(*Invited for June 2020, Conference Postponed due to COVID-19*)

"Could Epistemic Reasons Be *Collective* Practical Reasons?"
The 4th Southampton-Humboldt Normativity Conference
University of Southampton, U.K., June 2019

"What Do Lisa, Her College's Chess Club, and NATO Have in Common?
Rethinking What it Takes to Be an Agent"
Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics, Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences
The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, June 2019

"All Day, Every Day"
Central New York (CNY) Moral Psychology Workshop
With Comments from Hille Paakkunainen
Le Moyne College, Syracuse, NY, May 2019

"Group Agency Meets Meta-Ethics: How to Craft a More Compelling Form of Normative Relativism"
The 13th Annual Madison Metaethics Workshop
> University of Wisconsin-Madison, September 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"**
Social Ontology 2018
> Tufts University, Medford, MA, August 2018
> In cooperation with the International Social Ontology Society

"How to Avoid Three Problems for Moral Relativism: Attribute Reasons to Societies as Well as Persons!"
The 2018 CEPPA (Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs) Graduate Conference
> University of St. Andrews, U.K., February 2018

"From Normative Disagreement to Normative Antirealism?"
The 2017 Harvard-MIT Graduate Conference in Philosophy
> Harvard University, April 2017

"Ethics, Explanation and Attitude-Dependence"
The 2017 Great Lakes Philosophy Conference: Ethical Intersections
> Held in cooperation by Adrian College and Siena Heights University
> Adrian, MI, March 2017

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

INVITED COMMENTARY

Comments on "A Pragmatic Social Epistemology" by Michael Hannon
Eastern APA (American Philosophical Association) Conference, Symposium
> New York, NY, January 2023

Comments on "A Standing Asymmetry Between Blame and Forgiveness" by Kyle Fritz and Daniel Miller
Pacific APA Conference, Colloquium
> Vancouver, Canada, April 2022

Comments on "Against Capacity Views of Action and Control" by Malte Hendrickx
Central APA Conference, Colloquium: Actions and Attitudes
> Chicago, IL, February 2022

Comments on "Normative Inference Tickets" by Jennifer Foster and Jonathan Ichikawa
Eastern APA Conference, Symposium
> Baltimore, MD, January 2022

Comments on "Contingency, Sociality, and Moral Progress" by Olof Leffler
Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference (RoME) 2021
> Boulder, CO, August 2021 (session held virtually)

Comments on "A Quiet Moral Ontology" by Miles Tucker
Eastern APA Conference, Colloquium
> New York, NY, January 2021 (held virtually due to COVID-19)

Comments on "Third-Factor Defenses of Moral Knowledge" by Luke Kallberg
Central APA Conference, Colloquium: Debunking in Epistemology
> Chicago, IL, February 2020

**Comments on "Harmless Torturers, Accumulation Cases, and a Solution to the Mismatch Problem"
by Robert Gruber**
Eastern APA Conference, Colloquium: Ethics of Collectives
> New York, NY, January 2019

COURSES TAUGHT AS SOLE OR PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR

UNDERGRADUATE PHILOSOPHY COURSES

Suffolk University:
  Honors Contemporary Ethics (Fall 2025)

Tufts University:
  Introduction to Philosophy (multiple sections Fall 2023 - Spring 2026)
  Introduction to Ethics (Summer 2024 & 2025)
  History of Modern Philosophy (Spring 2025 & 2026, also open to Tufts MA students)

New York University:
  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 (Spring 2020, Spring 2021)
  Topics in Metaphysics & Epistemology: "Moral Epistemology and the Debate Over Moral Realism"
      (Spring 2019)
  Central Problems in Philosophy (Fall 2018 and Summer 2018)
  Philosophy of Mind (Summer 2017)
  History of Modern Philosophy (Summer 2015, 2016, and 2017)

The City College of New York, CUNY:
  Introduction to Philosophy (2 sections, including Honors section, Spring 2023)

GRADUATE (MA) BIOETHICS COURSES

New York University:
  Advanced Introduction to Bioethics (Fall 2019, 2020, and 2021)
  Topics in Bioethics: Controversies & Politics (Spring 2020, 2021, and 2022)
  Advanced Introduction to Public Health Ethics (Summer 2020 and Spring 2022)

COURSES TAUGHT AS TEACHING ASSISTANT (NEW YORK UNIVERSITY)

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE CORE CURRICULUM:
  Texts & Ideas: Attachment, Loss and the Passage of Time (Spring 2018 for Sharon Street)

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT, UNDERGRADUATE:
  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 AS PRIMARY ADVISOR, NYU CENTER FOR BIOETHICS

  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?"

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING COMPLETED

"Learning by Doing: Easy Ways to Integrate Experiential Learning" Virtual Workshop
 Tufts Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning (September 2025)

Professional Development Series on "Teaching Writing in Philosophy Classes"
 The City College of New York, CUNY (Spring 2023)

Workshops on "Teaching Large Lectures" and "Improving Student Writing"
 NYU Center for the Advancement of Teaching (November-October 2018)

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY AND TO THE ACADEMIC PROFESSION

Session Chair, Annual Madison Metaethics Workshop (multiple occasions)
 University of Wisconsin-Madison, September 2021, 2022, 2024

Faculty Judge, Undergraduate Research Conference, Philosophy Panel
 New York University, College of Arts & Science, May 2023

Co-Organizer and Co-Founder, NYU Philosophical Bioethics Workshop
 1st workshop held virtually in November 2020
 2nd workshop held on campus in 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, 12th Annual Conference on Issues in Modern Philosophy: God
 NYU, November 2015

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

Graduate Student Representative, NYU Department of Philosophy (2013-2014)
>   Represented PhD students' interests at departmental faculty meetings

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 TEACHING IN NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC 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

Instructor for "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,

Judge, New York City High School Ethics Bowl, held at
>   High School for Environmental Studies (January 2020)
>   Columbia Teachers College (January 2019)
>   New York University (January 2018)
>   Columbia University (February 2017)

VOLUNTEER TUTORING IN THE BOSTON AREA

Senior Mentor for The Valedictorian Project, Fall 2025-
>   Pairs mentors with high-achieving public high school students in the Boston area for long-term advising and support as they complete college (often as first-generation students)
>   https://thevalproj.org

REFEREE

Journals (some on multiple occasions): *Analysis, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Episteme, Erkenntnis, Journal of Ethics & Social Philosophy, The Journal of Philosophy, Journal of Social Ontology, Journal of Social Philosophy, Mind, Philosophical Psychology, The Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Ratio, Synthese*

Oxford University Press

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Professional Development Fund for Part-time Faculty, Tufts University, Fall 2025
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
Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, 2017-2018
NYU Graduate School of Arts and Science Dean's Student Travel Grant, awarded 2x, Spring 2018 and 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