

12 February 2018

Curriculum Vitae of Derek Baker

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Employment

Lingnan University Associate Professor of Philosophy, August 2015 – present.
– Assistant Professor of Philosophy, August 2009 – August 2015.

Education

Princeton University Ph.D. in Philosophy, July 2009
University of California, Berkeley B.A. in Philosophy, with honors, May 2002

Research and Teaching Interests

Areas of Specialization: Action Theory, Moral Psychology, Ethics and Metaethics
Areas of Competence: Political Philosophy, Epistemology, Metaphysics, Schopenhauer, Nietzsche

Fellowships and Grants

Lingnan University Faculty Sabbatical Approved for a Semester-Long Research Project in
Metaethics – September 2018 - December 2018
Hong Kong Research Grants Council Early Career Scheme Grant – Jan 2013 - Dec 2014
Princeton University Center for Human Values Graduate Fellowship – AY 2008 - 2009

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

“Skepticism about Ought *Simpliciter*,” *Oxford Studies in Metaethics* 13, (ed.) R. Shafer-Landau, Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

“Expression and Guidance in Schroeder’s Expressivist Semantics,” *Erkenntnis*, forthcoming.

“The Varieties of Normativity,” in *The Routledge Handbook of Metaethics*, (eds.) T. McPherson and D. Plunkett, Routledge (2017): 567-81.

“The Verdictive Organization of Desire,” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 47 (2017): 589-612.

“Deliberators Must Be Imperfect,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 93 (2016): 321-47.

“Intuitions about Disagreement Do Not Support the Normativity of Meaning,” *dialectica* 70 (2016): 65-84.

Articles and Chapters, *continued*

“On Rationally Valuing One’s Life,” special issue of *Asian Bioethics Review*, (ed.) B. Steinbock, 8 (2016): 1-16.

“Why Transparency Undermines Economy,” *Synthese* 192 (2015): 3037-3050.

“Akrasia and the Problem of the Unity of Reason,” *Ratio* 28 (2015): 65-80.

“How Expressivists Can and Should Explain Inconsistency,” (coauthored with Jack Woods) *Ethics* 125 (2015): 391-424.

* Topic of an online symposium at PEA Soup (www.peasoup.typepad.com) with critical *précis* by Mark Schroeder, January 2015.

“The Abductive Case for Humeanism over Quasi-Perceptual Theories of Desire,” *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* 8 (2014): 1-29.

“Knowing Yourself—and Giving up on Your Own Agency in the Process,” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 90 (2012): 641-56.

“Ambivalent Desires and the Problem with Reduction,” *Philosophical Studies* 150 (2010): 37-47.

Book Reviews

Free Will and Action Explanation, by Scott Schon, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, forthcoming.

Motivational Internalism, eds. G. Björnsson, C. Strandberg, R. Francén Olinder, J. Eriksson, and F. Björklund, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 94 (2016): 814-16.

Selected Works in Progress

“Conviction without Belief,” under review.

“Verdictive Rationalism about Self-Knowledge,” in progress.

“Handling Rejection,” (coauthor Jack Woods) in progress.

Miscellaneous

Author’s Discussion of “Skepticism about Ought *Simpliciter*” with Ohio State University Graduate Seminar, Normative Realism and Normative Authority, instructed by Tristram McPherson, February 2018. (Discussion conducted via Skype.)

Comments on Derek Shiller’s “The Unity of the Moral Attitudes,” Third Annual Minds Online Conference, at *Philosophy of Brains*, <http://mindsonline.philosophyofbrains.com/minds-online-2017-program/>, September 2017.

“Why Bad People Will Find It Hard to Be Patriotic,” featured philosophers post at *PEA Soup*, <http://peasoup.us/2017/08/bad-people-will-find-hard-patriotic-featured-philosopher-derek-baker/>, August 2017.

* One of the five most-viewed *PEA Soup* featured-philosopher, NPDR, or journal discussions for 2017 (<http://peasoup.us/2017/12/top-viewed-2017-posts-teaser-upcoming-kit-wellman-forum/>).

Miscellaneous, *continued*

Discussion of “How Expressivists Can and Should Explain Inconsistency,” *Ethics* discussions at *PEA Soup*, (with Jack Woods, and a critical *precis* by Mark Schroeder), <http://peasoup.typepad.com/peasoup/2015/01/ethics-discussions-at-pea-soup-baker-and-woods-how-expressivists-can-and-should-explain-inconsistency-with-precis-by-schroede.html>, January 2015.

Presentations

- “Dynamic Expressivism, van Roojen’s Problem, and the Unity of Negation”
- Lingnan University Public Philosophy Seminar, February 2018.
 - Wuhan University Public Philosophy Lecture, May 2017.
 - Bowling Green State University Public Philosophy Seminar, January 2017.
- Comments on Spencer Case’s “Is Nihilism Self-Defeating?”
- American Philosophical Association Colloquium, Eastern Division, Savannah, January 2018.
- “The Guise of the Good, Sympathetic Intelligibility, and the Limits of Charity”
- Third Annual Taiwan Metaphysics Conference, National Taiwan University, November 2017.
- “Skepticism about Ought *Simpliciter*”
- Chapel Hill Metaethics Workshop, North Carolina, September 2016.
- “Handling Rejection” (coauthored with Jack Woods)
- Lingnan Expressivism Conference, Lingnan University, Hong Kong, June 2016.
- “The Humean Normative Project”
- Bowling Green State University Public Philosophy Seminar, Ohio, January 2016.
 - Rice University Public Seminar, Houston, Texas, January 2016.
 - University of Hong Kong Public Philosophy Seminar, September 2015.
- “Self-Reflection and the Verdictive Organization of Desires”
- University of Macau Conference on Rationality and Its Rivals, Macau, December 2015.
 - National University of Singapore Public Philosophy Seminar, March 2014.
- “Explanation and Instrumentalism”
- National Taiwan University, Taiwan Metaphysics Colloquium, November 2015.
 - Global Themes in Naturalism: International Workshop in Honor of Chad Hansen, National University of Singapore, June 2011.
- “On Rationally Valuing One’s Life”
- Chinese University of Hong Kong Centre for Bioethics Workshop on Dying Well: Physician Assisted Suicide, Voluntary Euthanasia, and Advance Directives, November 2015.
- “Negation as an Attitude Modifier”
- Trinity College Dublin Philosophy Seminar, July 2015.
- “Legislative versus Judicial Models of Self-Knowledge”
- University College Dublin Philosophy Seminar, May 2015.

Presentations, *continued*

“Verdictive Rationalism about Self-Knowledge”

- UNESCO World Philosophy Day Conference, Bilkent University, Ankara, November 2014.
- Australasian Association of Philosophy, Australia National University, Canberra, July 2014.
- Yonsei Philosophy Summer Conference, Yonsei International Campus, Seoul, June 2014.

“Why Response-Dependent Accounts of Normative Properties Can and Must Idealize”

- Yonsei University Work-in-Progress Seminar, Seoul, November 2014.
- University of Hong Kong Public Seminar, November 2014.
- University of Melbourne Public Seminar, October 2014.

“Intuitions about Disagreement Do Not Support the Normativity of Meaning”

- American Philosophical Association Colloquium, Pacific Division, San Diego, April 2014.*

Discussion of Draft Chapters for *An Almost Unified Theory of the Self* (book project)

- National University of Singapore, Moral Psychology Reading Group, March 2014.

“Why Should I—If You Can’t Explain Normativity?”

- Conference on Metaethics and Grounding, Bogazici University, Istanbul, October 2013.*
- Virginia Tech Philosophy Colloquium October 2013.
- Australia National University MSPT Seminar, September 2013.
- University of Western Australia Public Seminar, September 2013.

“Omniscient Agents Might Be Conceptually Impossible”

- University of Hong Kong Public Seminar, October 2012.
- Chinese University of Hong Kong Public Seminar, May 2012.

“Inconsistent Attitudes and Inconsistent Contents: A Defense of B-type Inconsistency” (coauthored with Jack Woods)

- Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado, Boulder, August 2012.

“How to Reconcile Devitt’s Obviously Correct Position on the Psychology of Know How with the Semantics of Stanley and Williamson”

- Conference on the Work of Michael Devitt, Lingnan University, May 2012.

“Why You Should Lack Parfit’s Concept of a Reason (or a Defense of Analytic Subjectivism)”

- University of Miami Public Colloquium, October 2011.

Comments on Dale Dorsey’s “The Supererogatory: How to Accommodate It”

- Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, August 2010.

“Knowing Yourself, and Giving Up on Your Own Agency in the Process”

- Australasian Association of Philosophy, July 2010.
- Hong Kong University, February 2010.

“The Strength of Desire, Reflection, and the Formation of the Will”

- Chinese University of Hong Kong Public Seminar, February 2009.

“Ambivalence and Consistency”

- Australasian Association of Philosophy, La Trobe University, Melbourne, July 2008.

* *Refereed Presentation.*

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate Courses Taught at Lingnan

Bioethics – Elective course on problems in Biomedical Ethics.

Applied Ethics – Elective course on problems in applied ethics.

Theory and Practice of Autonomy – Advanced course on the nature of autonomy, practical identification, freedom, and responsibility.

Western Political Philosophy – Survey course providing students with an overview of the key debates in political philosophy in the western tradition.

Advanced Western Ethics – Survey course providing students with an overview of the key philosophical problems of the western ethical tradition and their historical development.

Theories of Justice – Advanced course on Political Philosophy, covering both key figures in the history of Western political thought and contemporary problems in political philosophy.

Schopenhauer and Nietzsche – Advanced course in history of philosophy.

Understanding Morality – Introductory course in moral philosophy.

Ethics: The Western Tradition – Course in moral philosophy for philosophy majors, covering both the history of western ethical thought and contemporary problems in moral philosophy.

Understanding Knowledge – Introduction to epistemology for non-majors.

Value Theory – Advanced course in contemporary metaethics.

Undergraduate Directed Research Projects – Supervised the following year-long undergraduate theses:

- Chai Randan, “Defending Democracy against Epistocracy,” in progress.
- OGRE Lam Dao Yau, “Moral Darwinism and Altruistic Behaviour,” AY 2016 – 2017.
- William Chan Wai Chuen, “The Self in Liberalism and Communitarianism,” AY 2015 – 2016.
- Choy Tsz Chun, “Rawls on Public Political Culture,” AY 2013 – 2014.
- Ip Ka Ho, “The Nature of Personal Integrity,” AY 2011 – 2012.
- Ng Suet Yi, “Forgiveness as a Loving Attitude,” AY 2011 – 2012.

Master of Arts in Practical Philosophy Courses

Decision and Rational Choice – Course on decision theory and its applications to issues in philosophy for the department-affiliated Masters of Arts in Practical Philosophy program.

Schopenhauer and Nietzsche – Course in history of philosophy for the department-affiliated Masters of Arts in Practical Philosophy program.

Graduate Supervision

Primary Supervisor for

- Ezechiele Thibaud
PhD Candidate, *Autonomy and Communities: A Communitarian Approach to Moral Autonomy*, in progress since September 2017.
- Emile Chan Chun Nam
MPhil Thesis, *Neo-Sentimentalism and the Bodily Attitude Theory of Emotions*, September 2014 – October 2016. Completed.
- Choy Tsz Chun
MPhil Thesis, *The Two Faces of Equality*, September 2014 – September 2016. Completed.
Exam committee decided thesis was “outstanding.”

Exam Committee Member for

- Wang Qin
University of Hong Kong PhD Dissertation, “Taste Versus Moral Fiction,” March 2016; August 2017.
- Lam Hung Nin
Lingnan University MPhil Thesis, “The Nature of Intuitions: What Theories of Intuition Ought to Be,” May 2015.

Professional Service

Associate Editor, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, March 2012 – present.

Referee for Analysis,* Ethics, Noûs, Philosophical Studies,* Australasian Journal of Philosophy,* Philosophical Quarterly,* Synthese,* Canadian Journal of Philosophy,* Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy,* Erkenntnis,* Journal of Moral Philosophy, Ethical Theory and Moral Practice, Social Theory and Practice,* Journal of the American Philosophical Association, Philosophical Papers, Minds Online Conference, and Grazer Philosophische Studien.

Member, American Philosophical Association, Fall 2008 – present.

Co-organizer, Lingnan Expressivism Conference, June 2016.

Co-organizer, Hong Kong Metaethics Conference at Lingnan University, May 2013.

Service to University and Department

Member, Academic Committee for Lingnan Community College and Lingnan Institute for Further Education, September 2017 – present.

Member, Subcommittee for Designing “Ethics East and West” course, September 2017 – present.

Seminar Coordinator, Department of Philosophy Public Seminars, September 2017 – present.

Departmental Core Curriculum Course Coordinator, October 2013 – August 2017.

Faculty of Arts Representative, University Academic Senate, September 2015 – August 2017.

* Multiple times refereeing.

Service to University and Department, *continued*

Panel Member, Office of Mainland and Internationalisation Programme Interview Panel, September 2015 – August 2017.

Representative of the Dean of Arts, Undergraduate Examinations Board, September 2015 – June 2016.

Philosophy Department Representative, University Taskforce for the Four-year Curriculum, September 2015 – April 2016.

Moderator, Report on Examination Questions and Answers (Before Examination) for Associate Degree and Higher Diploma Programmes, April 2016.

Member, Departmental Committee on Revising Philosophy Journal List, September 2015 – January 2016.

Acting Head of Department, Department of Philosophy, December 2015 – January 2016.

Department Library Liaison, AY 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Department Representative, the Research and Postgraduate Studies Committee in Arts, AY 2014/15.

Panel Member, the Research Proposal Scoring Panel in the Arts, AY 2014/15.

Panel Member, Interview Committee for Post of Visiting Senior Lecturer/Visiting Lecturer in Philosophy, May 2014.

Search Committee Member, Faculty Search Committee, AY 2013/14.

Course Coordinator, Understanding Morality, March 2011 – October 2013.

Seminar Coordinator, Philosophy Public Seminars, AY 2012/13.

Panel Member, Admission Panel for Postgraduate Programme, AY 2010/11 and 2011/12.

Panel Member, Philosophy Department Curriculum Committee, Spring 2010.

Faculty of Arts Representative, Task Force on Definitions for Academic Quality Assurance, AY 2009/10.

Secretary, Lingnan Philosophy Department, AY 2009/10.

References

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