

JACOB M. NEBEL

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Department of Philosophy
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EMPLOYMENT

Princeton University

Professor of Philosophy (2023–)

Associated Faculty, University Center for Human Values (2023–)

University of Southern California

Professor of Philosophy (2022)

Assistant Professor of Philosophy (2019–2022)

EDUCATION

New York University (2015–2019)

PhD in Philosophy

Dissertation: *Populations and Prospects*

Committee: Samuel Scheffler (chair), Cian Dorr, Johann Frick

University of Oxford (2013–2015)

BPhil in Philosophy (with distinction)

Thesis: *Incommensurability in Population Ethics* (highest distinction)

Advisor: Derek Parfit

Princeton University (2009–2013)

AB in Philosophy (*summa cum laude*)

Certificate in Values and Public Life

Thesis: *Status Quo Bias, Rationality, and Conservatism about Value*

Advisor: Thomas Kelly

PUBLICATIONS

“Multidimensional Concepts and Disparate Scale Types,” with Brian Hedden.

The Philosophical Review, forthcoming.

“Social Choice Theory,” with John A. Weymark.

In *The Routledge Companion to Social and Political Philosophy*, Second Edition, ed. Fred D’Agostino and Ryan Muldoon (Routledge, forthcoming).

“Ethics Without Numbers.”

Philosophy and Phenomenological Research (2023): 1–31. DOI: 10.1111/phpr.12966.

“The Sum of Well-Being.”

Mind 132 (2023): 1074–1104. DOI: 10.1093/mind/fzad019.

“The Case for Comparability,” with Cian Dorr and Jake Zuehl.

Noûs 57 (2023): 414–453. DOI: 10.1111/nous.12407.

- “Strong Dictatorship via Ratio-Scale Measurable Utilities: A Simpler Proof.”
Economic Theory Bulletin 11 (2023): 101–106. DOI: 10.1007/s40505-023-00244-8.
- “Calibration Dilemmas in the Ethics of Distribution,” with H. Orri Stefánsson.
Economics and Philosophy 39 (2023): 67–98. DOI: 10.1017/S0266267121000298.
- “Aggregation Without Interpersonal Comparisons of Well-Being.”
Philosophy and Phenomenological Research 105 (2022): 18–41. DOI: 10.1111/phpr.12783.
- “Conservatisms about the Valuable.”
Australasian Journal of Philosophy 100 (2022): 180–194. DOI: 10.1080/00048402.2020.1861037.
- “Totalism Without Repugnance.”
 In *Ethics and Existence: The Legacy of Derek Parfit*, ed. Jeff McMahan, Tim Campbell, James Goodrich, and Ketan Ramakrishnan (Oxford University Press, 2022): 200–231. DOI: 10.1093/oso/9780192894250.003.0009.
- “Consequences of Comparability,” with Cian Dorr and Jake Zuehl.
Philosophical Perspectives 35 (2021): 70–98. DOI: 10.1111/phpe.12157.
- “Utils and Shmutils.”
Ethics 131 (2021): 571–599. DOI: 10.1086/712578.
- “Rank-Weighted Utilitarianism and the Veil of Ignorance.”
Ethics 131 (2020): 87–106. DOI: 10.1086/709140.
- “A Fixed-Population Problem for the Person-Affecting Restriction.”
Philosophical Studies 177 (2020): 2779–2787. DOI: 10.1007/s11098-019-01338-5.
- “Asymmetries in the Value of Existence.”
Philosophical Perspectives 33 (2019): 126–145. DOI: 10.1111/phpe.12128.
- “An Intrapersonal Addition Paradox.”
Ethics 129 (2019): 309–343. DOI: 10.1086/700085.
- “Hopes, Fears, and Other Grammatical Scarecrows.”
The Philosophical Review 128 (2019): 63–105. DOI: 10.1215/00318108-7213014.
- “Normative Reasons as Reasons Why We Ought.”
Mind 128 (2019): 459–485. DOI: 10.1093/mind/fzy013.
- “The Good, the Bad, and the Transitivity of *Better Than*.”
Noûs 52 (2018): 874–899. DOI: 10.1111/nous.12198.
- “Priority, Not Equality, for Possible People.”
Ethics 127 (2017): 896–911. DOI: 10.1086/691568.
- “Status Quo Bias, Rationality, and Conservatism about Value.”
Ethics 125 (2015): 449–476. DOI: 10.1086/678482.
- “Teaching Philosophy through Lincoln-Douglas Debate,” with Peter van Elswyk, Ben Holguín, and Ryan Davis.
Teaching Philosophy 36 (2013): 271–289. DOI: 10.5840/teachphil201336334.
- “A Counterexample to Parfit’s Rule Consequentialism.”
Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy 6 (2012): 1–11. DOI: 10.26556/jesp.v6i2.149.

UNPUBLISHED WORK

- “Extensive Measurement in Social Choice.” Conditionally accepted, *Theoretical Economics*.
“A Choice-Functional Characterization of Welfarism.” Submitted.
“Infinite Ethics and the Limits of Impartiality.” Submitted.
“Symmetry, Invariance, and Imprecise Probability,” with Zachary Goodsell. Submitted.
“Recent Developments in Welfarist Social Choice.” In preparation for the *Handbook of Utility Theory: Volume II*, revised edition, ed. Ani Guerdjikova and Marcus Pivato.
“Migration and Social Population Ethics,” with Adam Kern. In preparation.
“The Value of Risky Prospects,” with Lara Buchak. In preparation.

PRESENTATIONS

- “Symmetry, Invariance, and Imprecise Probability,” with Zachary Goodsell.
Workshop on Completeness and Incompleteness of Preference and Value, University of Texas at Austin (2024).
Faculty Work in Progress Seminar, Princeton University (2023).
- “Extensive Measurement in Social Choice.”
Online Social Choice and Welfare Seminar (2023).
- “Infinite Ethics and the Limits of Impartiality.”
Departmental Colloquium, Brown University (2023).
Higher Seminar in Practical Philosophy, Uppsala University (2023).
Workshop on Unbounded Utility in Ethics and Decision Theory, University of Texas at Austin (2022).
- “Calibration Dilemmas in the Ethics of Distribution” (with H. Orri Stefánsson).
Center for Population-Level Bioethics Seminar, Rutgers University, New Brunswick (2023)
Formal Ethics Conference (2022)
Formal Value Theory Workshop, Center for Values and Social Policy, University of Colorado, Boulder (2020)
PPE Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans (2020)
- “The Sum of Well-Being.”
Departmental Colloquium, Rutgers University–New Brunswick (2022)
Departmental Colloquium, Arizona State University (2022)
Departmental Colloquium, Princeton University (2021)
Departmental Colloquium, University of Texas at Austin (2021)
Departmental Colloquium, Rice University (2021)
- “Ethics Without Numbers.”
Seventh Oxford Workshop on Global Priorities Research (2021)
- “The Value of Risky Prospects” (with Lara Buchak).
Virtual Workshop on Risk Attitudes, Princeton University (2021)
- “Pandemics and Russian Roulette: Should We Pay More to Save the Greater Number?”
Pacific APA (2021)
- “Aggregation Without Interpersonal Comparisons of Well-Being.”
Virtual Conference on Social Choice Theory and Applications, Wake Forest University (2021)
- “The Case for Comparability” (with Cian Dorr and Jake Zuehl).
New York Philosophy of Language Workshop (2021)
Departmental Colloquium, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2020)
- “Rank-Weighted Utilitarianism and the Veil of Ignorance.”
PPE Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans (2020)
- “An Intrapersonal Addition Paradox.”

Department of Philosophy, University of Southern California (2018)
Choice Group, London School of Economics (2017)

Comments

Johann Frick, “The Value of Life, the Value of Virtue.” Ira W. DeCamp Bioethics Seminar, Princeton University Center for Human Values (2023).

TEACHING

Current Graduate Students

Chris Bottomley (Princeton). Advisor (2023–).
Pietro Cibinel (Princeton). Advisor (2023–).
Calvin Baker (Princeton). Generals exam committee (2023). Advisor (2023–).
Weng Kin San (USC). Qualifying committee (2022–2023). Dissertation committee (2023–).
Stephanie Van Fossen (USC). Qualifying committee (2022–2023). Dissertation committee (2023–).
Philip Li (USC). Second-year mentor (2019–2020). Area exam co-chair (2020–2021). Qualifying committee (2021–2023). Dissertation committee (2023–).

Completed Graduate Students

Zachary Goodsell. *Unbounded Utility*. Ph.D. thesis, USC (2023). Committee member.
Michal Masny. *Past and Possibility: Essays on Value, Justice, Time, and Wasted Potential*. Ph.D. thesis, Princeton (2023). Committee member.
David Clark. *Responding to Harm*. Ph.D. thesis, USC (2023). Committee member.
Jasmine Gunkel. *On Intimacy: A Philosophical Account*. Ph.D. thesis, USC (2023). Committee member.
Vishnu Sridharan. *Getting Our Act(s) Together: The Normativity of Diachronic Choice*. Ph.D. thesis, USC (2022). Co-chair.
Pascal Jakowec. *An Account of the Normative Structure of Human Rights*. M.A. thesis, USC (2021). Chair.
Simon Blessenohl. *Political Decision-Making in an Uncertain World*. Ph.D. thesis, USC (2021). Committee member.

As External Examiner

Mitch Barrington. *Deontological Decision Theory*. M.Phil. thesis, ACU (2022).
Petra Kosonen. *Tiny Probabilities of Vast Value*. D.Phil. thesis, Oxford (2022).

Graduate Courses

Normative Ethics: *Weighing Goods* and *Weighing Lives* (Fall 2023)
Proseminar in Value Theory (Spring 2020, with Ralph Wedgwood)
Seminar in Ethics: Population Ethics (Fall 2019)

Undergraduate Courses

Introduction to Moral Philosophy (Spring 2024)
Ethics, Technology, and Value (Spring 2022, with Elisa Warford)
Directed Research for PPE Capstone (Spring 2021)
Value Theory (Spring 2021)
Seminar in Humanistic Inquiry: The Ethics of Killing, Saving, and Creating (Fall 2020)
Philosophy of Economics (Spring 2020, Fall 2021)

As Teaching Assistant

Political Philosophy (Spring 2018, for Samuel Scheffler, New York University)
Modal Logic (Fall 2017, for Marko Malink, New York University)

Certification

Teaching Certificate, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, New York University (Fall 2017)

Outreach

Victory Briefs Debate Institute

Executive Director (2014–2023)

Curriculum Director (2011–2014)

Instructor (2009–2011)

SERVICE

Editorial Positions

Editorial Board, *Politics, Philosophy & Economics* (2023–)

Associate Editor, *Ethics* (2023–)

Associate Editor, *Social Choice and Welfare* (2023–)

Area Editor, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* (2019–2022)

Refereeing

Reviewer for the following journals, conferences, grantmakers, and publishers: *Analysis* (4); *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (8); *Economics and Philosophy* (13); *Environmental Philosophy*; *Ergo* (3); *Erkenntnis* (2); *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*; *Ethics* (7); *Inquiry* (2); *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* (2); *Journal of Ethics*; *Journal of Moral Philosophy* (4); *Journal of Philosophy* (3); *Mind*; *Noûs* (9); *Philosophers' Imprint*; *Philosophia* (3); *Philosophical Papers* (2); *Philosophical Quarterly* (3); *Philosophical Review*; *Philosophical Studies* (14); *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* (5); *Politics, Philosophy and Economics*; *Public Affairs Quarterly*; *Social Choice and Welfare*; *Synthese*; *The Journal of Value Inquiry* (4); *The Monist* (2); *Theoria*; *Utilitas* (5); British Society for Ethical Theory Annual Conference; Israel Science Foundation; Open Philanthropy; Oxford University Press (3).

Tenure/promotion referee: University of Notre Dame, Lund University, National University of Singapore.

External fellowship assessor: Magdalen College, Oxford.

Service at Princeton University

Chair, Rights and Rules Committee, Council of the Princeton University Community (2023–2024)

Appointments Committee, Department of Philosophy (2023–2024)

Graduate Admissions Screening Committee, Department of Philosophy (2023–2024)

Service at University of Southern California

Search Committee (2019–2020, 2021–2022)

Departmental Nominating Committee for University Society of Fellows (2020–2021, 2021–2022)

PPE Major Committee (2019–2022)

Tenure Report Committee (2020–2021)

Graduate Recruitment Committee (2020–2021)

Graduate Admissions Committee (2019–2020)

Participant, Disaster Recovery Teaching Pilot (2019–2020)

HONORS

Fellowships

MacCracken Fellowship (NYU, 2015–2019)
Marshall Scholarship (2013–2015)

Grants

Course Development Grant, Open Philanthropy (2021)
Provost's Interdisciplinary Teaching Grant, with Elisa Warford and Jacob Ross (USC, 2021)

Awards

Albert S. Raubenheimer Award for Outstanding Junior Faculty (USC, 2022)
Gilbert Ryle Prize for best overall performance in the BPhil (Oxford, 2015)
Phi Beta Kappa Student Prize for highest academic standing (Princeton, 2013)
Moses Taylor Pyne Honor Prize (Princeton, 2013)
McCosh Senior Thesis Prize (Princeton, 2013)
Dickinson Senior Thesis Prize (Princeton, 2013)
Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence (Princeton, 2010, 2011)