

Chris Melenovsky

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| APPOINTMENTS | Suffolk University (Jan 2019 - present) Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department Assistant Director: PPE Program |
| | Utica College (Aug 2016 - Dec 2018) Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department |
| | University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (July 2014 - July 2016) Research Assistant Professor: PPE Program |
| EDUCATION | University of Pennsylvania (Ph.D. in Philosophy, 2014; M.A. 2011) • Dissertation Supervisor: Prof. Samuel Freeman |
| | University of Michigan (B.A. in Philosophy; B.A. in Economics, 2007) |
| PUBLICATIONS | “Conventionalism and Legitimate Expectations” • <i>Journal of Moral Philosophy</i> (forthcoming) |
| | “Social Cooperation as Institutional Rule-Following” • <i>Public Affairs Quarterly</i> , 34.1 (January 2020) |
| | “The Status Quo in Buchan’s Constitutional Contractarianism” • <i>Homo Oeconomicus</i> , 36.2 (September 2019) |
| | “The Value of a Non-Ideal” • <i>Social Theory and Practice</i> , 45.3 (July 2019) |
| | “Rawlsian Objectivity” • <i>Journal of the APA</i> (January 2019) |
| | “The Implicit Argument for the Basic Liberties” • <i>Res Publica</i> , 24.4 (November 2018) |
| | “Not all Political Lies are Morally Equal” • <i>Journal of Social Philosophy</i> , 49.2 (July 2018) |
| | “Incentives, Conventionalism, and Constructivism” • <i>Ethics</i> , 126.3 (April 2016) |
| | “Promises, Practices, and Reciprocity” • <i>Philosophical Quarterly</i> , 67.266 (June 2016) |
| | “Why Free Market Rights are Not Basic Liberties” (with J. Bernstein) • <i>Journal of Value Inquiry</i> , 49.1 (March 2015) |
| | “The Basic Structure as a System of Social Practices” • <i>Social Theory and Practice</i> , 39.4 (October 2013) |

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| RESEARCH AREAS | <p><i>Areas of Specialization:</i> Political Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, Philosophy of Law</p> <p><i>Areas of Competence:</i> Phil. of Social Science, History of Value Theory, Applied Ethics</p> |
| DRAFTED PAPERS | <p>“Conventionalism and Legitimate Expectations”</p> <p>“Public Reason in and out of the Well-Ordered Society”</p> <p>“Our Reasons to Follow Conventional Practice”</p> <p>“The Ethics of Changing Rights”</p> |
| PRESENTATIONS | <p>“Kantian Conventionalism” [refereed] - 2020 PPE Society Meeting; New Orleans, LA, (Mar 12th-14th)</p> <p>“Defending Practice Positivism” [refereed] - 2019 PPE Society Meeting; New Orleans, LA, (Mar 28th-30th)</p> <p>“Property Rights and Injustice: The Emancipation of the Serfs” [refereed] - 2018 PPE Society Meeting; New Orleans, LA, (Mar 15th-17th)</p> <p>“Conventionalism as Communitarian Contractualism” [refereed] - 2017 Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress; Boulder, CO (Aug 10th-13th)</p> <p>“A Moral Taxonomy of Social Practices” [refereed] - 2017 PPE Society Meeting; New Orleans, LA, (Mar 16th-19th)</p> <p>“Contractualist Conventionalism” [refereed] - 2016 APA Eastern Division Meeting; Washington DC, (Jan 6th-9th, 2016)</p> <p>“An Improved Conception of Social Cooperation” [invited] - MIT Political Theory Workshop, Cambridge, MA (October 23rd, 2015) - 2015 UNC/Duke PPE Workshop, Chapel Hill, NC (August 22nd, 2015)</p> <p>“The Implicit Argument for the Basic Liberties” [invited] - IVR 2015 (July 27th, 2015)</p> <p>“Rawlsian Objectivity,” [refereed] - 2015 APA Pacific Division Meeting; Vancouver., (April 4th, 2015)</p> <p>“Promises, Practices, and Reciprocity” [invited] - 2014 UNC/Duke PPE Workshop, Chapel Hill, NC (August 30th, 2014)</p> <p>“The Basic Structure and Ethical Life,” [refereed] - 2014 APA Pacific Division Meeting; San Diego, CA., (April 16th, 2014) - 2014 Felician Ethical Conference; Lodi, NJ (April 26th, 2014)</p> <p>“Rawlsian Objectivity and Naturalism” [refereed] - 2014 York University Graduate Conference; Toronto, (April 24th, 2014)</p> <p>“The Practice-Dependent Wrong of Breaking Promises,” [refereed] - Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress; Boulder, CO., (August 9th-12th, 2012) - Felician Ethics Conference; Rutherford, NJ., (April 21st, 2012)</p> <p>“Why Economic Rights are not Basic Liberties,” [with Justin Bernstein] - Graduate Student Colloquia Series; Philadelphia, PA., (May 3rd, 2013)</p> <p>“The Basic Structure as a Particular Set of Social Practices,” [refereed] - Graduate Conference; CUNY, New York, NY., (April 20th, 2012)</p> |

- PRESENTATIONS
(CON'T)
- "Legal Obligation, Fairness and the Value of Choice," [refereed]
 - *Graduate Workshop Series*, UPenn Program on Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism; Philadelphia, PA., (March 15th, 2012)
 - "Finessing Ecumenical Expressivism" [refereed]
 - *Brandeis Graduate Student Conference*; Waltham, (March 6th, 2010)
 - "International Right and Kant's World-Federation," [refereed]
 - *Oxford University Graduate Student Conference*, (November 22nd, 2009)

DISSERTATION

A Mooring for Ethical Life: Assessing the Basic Structure of Society

Supervisor: Samuel Freeman
 Advisors: Kok-Chor Tan, Elisabeth Camp, Waheed Hussain

The dissertation defends the Rawlsian focus on the basic structure of society as the primary subject of justice. I give an account of what the basic structure is and why it is morally significant. By structuring our interaction with others, our basic institutions do not merely cause certain distributions, they often determine our moral obligations, our rights, and what values we should regulate our choices by.

- AWARDS
- Mellon/SAS Dissertation Completion Fellowship (2013-2014)
 - Teaching Certificate, UPenn Center for Teaching and Learning (2013)
 - Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching (2010-2011)
 - Honorable Mention, Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching (2010-2011)

REFERENCES

Prof. Geoffrey Sayre-McCord
 Morehead-Cain Alumni Professor
 University of North Carolina
sayre-mccord@unc.edu

Prof. Chris Riddle
 Chair, Philosophy Department
 Utica College
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Prof. Kok-Chor Tan
 Associate Professor
 University of Pennsylvania
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Prof. Geoffrey Brennan
 Professor of Philosophy
 Australian National University
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Prof. Samuel Freeman
 Avalon Chair in the Humanities
 University of Pennsylvania
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Prof. Cristina Bicchieri
 Sascha Jane Patterson Harvie Professor
 University of Pennsylvania
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Prof. Elisabeth Camp
 Associate Professor
 Rutgers University
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Prof. Barry Maguire
 Assistant Professor
 Stanford University
barry.maguire@stanford.edu

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

- Ethics and Civic Life *(Fall 2019)*
 - By focusing on specific policy debates, this class highlights how ethical theory interacts with social science to argue for or against specific policies.
- Philosophy of Law *(Fall 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)*
 - A survey of both analytic and normative problems in Tort Law, Contract Law, Criminal Law, Property Law, and Constitutional Law
- Social Ethics *(Spring 2019)*
 - Introductory ethics class on individual responsibility for collectively harmful behavior such as consumer choices and sustaining harmful norms.
- Environmental Ethics *(Spring 2019)*
 - Upper level Philosophy and PPE course that focuses on ethical difficulties in the treatment of natural environments (with emphasis on policy decisions).
- Introduction to Ethics *(Fall 2016, 2017, 2018; Spring 2017)*
 - Focuses on developing skill in ethical reasoning by reviewing key ethical distinctions, applied topics, and major moral theories.
- Law and Ethics of Cyber Espionage *(Fall 2016, 2017; Spring 2017, 2018)*
 - Evaluates the policy and law that surrounds state-on-state, state-on-person, and company-on-company espionage, with special focus on cyber-espionage.
- Political Ethics *(Spring 2018, Fall 2012)*
 - Applied ethics with focus on moral issues faced within political institutions such as voting and legal ethics.
- Theories of Justice *(Spring 2017)*
 - Starting with contemporary debates, this class introduces political theories with a focus on Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Mill, Smith, Marx, and Rawls.
- Ethics of Peace, War, and Defense *(Summer, Spring 2016)*
 - Teaches the basics of and alternatives to just war theory before applying these ideas to contemporary topics like drone use, targeted killing, and secrecy.
- Introduction to PPE *(Fall 2014, 2015; Spring 2015)*
 - Examines rational choice theory, game theory, public choice theory, norms theory, and principles of distributive justice as introductory PPE class.
- Capstone Seminar in PPE *(Spring 2015, 2016)*
 - Senior research seminar PPE program. Topics include cost-benefit analysis, public choice theory, the value of democracy, and measures of well-being.
- Introduction to Moral Theory *(Fall 2014)*
 - Introduction to different approaches in moral theory with focus on Mill, Kant, Hobbes, and Aristotle.
- The Social Contract *(Summer 2012)*
 - Introductory class focusing on Hobbes, Locke, Bentham, Rousseau, Mill, Marx, Nozick and Rawls.

Teaching Assistant:

- Philosophy of Social Science *(Cristina Bicchieri, Spring 2011)*
- Justice, Law, and Morality *(Samuel Freeman, Fall 2011)*
- The Social Contract *(Kok-Chor Tan, Spring 2011)*
- Introduction to Ethics *(Adrienne Martin, Fall 2010)*

SERVICE AND
PROFESSIONAL
ACTIVITIES

Within Philosophy Department:

- Lead Organizer, “PPE Policy Event” Series (2019-20)
- Honors Coordinator for PPE and Philosophy, Suffolk University (2019-20)
- Core Oversight Committee, Utica College (2016/2017)
- Organizer, Kantian Ethics Reading Group, UNC (2015/16)
- Undergraduate honors thesis advisor for Daniel Irving on justifications of property rights (2015/16)
- Led undergraduate reading group on A. Buchanan’s *The Heart of Human Rights* (Fall 2015)
- Led undergraduate reading group on T. Piketty’s *Capital in the 21st Century* (Spring 2015)
- Participant, Early Career Ethics Writing Group, UNC (2014-16)
- Lead Organizer, “The Correspondence and Independence of Moral and Political Philosophy” Graduate Student Conference, (Nov. 2012)
- Organizer, UPenn Graduate Student Reading Group in Political and Ethical Philosophy (Fall 2013, Summer 2013, Fall 2012, Spring 2012, Fall 2011, Summer 2011, Spring 2011, Fall 2010)
- Undergraduate honors thesis advisor for Claudia Ricciardi, “Institutional Luck Egalitarianism,” Spring 2012)
- Organizer, UPenn Graduate Student Writing Group (2011/12)
- Graduate Student Representative, Philosophy Department (2011/12)

Outside Philosophy Department

- Member of Education Policy Committee, Suffolk University (2019-20)
- Honors Faculty Advisory Committee, Suffolk University (2019-20)
- Academic Standards Committee, Utica College (2018)
- Advisor, Utica College Debate Team (2016/2017)
- Instructor and Organizer for UNICEF/UPenn Course on Social Norms, (July 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015)
- Academic Administrator, Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law, University of Pennsylvania Law School, (June 2011-Dec. 2012)
- Researcher, Social Responsibility Action Committee, UPenn (2014)
- Independent Consultant on Social Norms and Development, UNICEF, (Jan-Sept. 2012)
- Judge for 2014 /15 North Carolina State Ethics Bowl Competition
- Graduate Associate, Harrison College House, (2009-2014)

Editing Experience

- Reviewed revised edition of John Rawls’s *A Theory of Justice* to identify places where Harvard University Press did not make the revisions requested by Prof. Rawls. Future printings will reflect these corrections.
- Adrienne Martin, *How We Hope* (Princeton University Press, 2013)
- Claire Finkelstein, et al., *Targeted Killings: Law and Morality in an Asymmetric World*, Oxford University Press, 2012)
- Kok-Chor Tan, *Justice, Institutions, and Luck: The Site, Ground, and Scope of Distributive Justice* (Oxford University Press, 2012)