

Jen Foster

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION
Social and Political Philosophy, Epistemology,
Philosophy of Language, Metaethics

AREAS OF COMPETENCE
Feminist Philosophy, Aesthetics, Moral Philosophy

Training

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Southern California Expected: May 2024
B.A. Philosophy, English, Spanish | Linguistics minor May 2016
West Virginia University, *Summa cum laude*.

DISSERTATION

“Courage, Cowardice, and Conflict: Roles of Doxastic Anxiety in Our Political Lives”
Supervised by Mark Schroeder, Robin Jeshion, Ralph Wedgwood, Sharon Lloyd, & Ann Crigler.

Awards

2020 Summer Research and Writing Grant, University of Southern California.
2019 Michael McCann Prize in History of Philosophy, USC Philosophy Department.
for “‘Persuade-or-Obey’ as Terms of Agreement: Reconciling Plato’s *Crito* and *Apology*”
2019 General Education Teaching Assistant Award, University of Southern California.
Awarded to four graduate assistants across University of Southern California Dornsife
College of Arts & Sciences for distinguished teaching during 2017-2018 academic year.
2016 Carl & Carolyn Franklin Endowed Fellowship, University of Southern California.

Research

PEER-REVIEWED ACADEMIC ARTICLES

Dec. 2023 “Busting the Ghost of Neutral Counterparts.” *Ergo*. ([open access](#))
Sep. 2023 “Normative Inference Tickets,” with Jonathan Ichikawa. *Episteme*. ([open access](#))
Sep. 2023 “Defining Moral Realism,” with Mark Schroeder. In P. Bloomfield & D. Copp
(Eds), *Oxford Handbook on Moral Realism*, Oxford University Press.

NON-ACADEMIC ARTICLES

Jun. 2021 “Jumping to conclusions? The hidden shortcuts in ‘he-said–she- said’ and ‘sexual
harassment,’” with Jonathan Ichikawa. [Blog of the APA](#).

ARTICLES UNDER SUBMISSION

“Are Women ‘Free and Equal’ in Rawls’s Well-Ordered Society?”
“Not-At-Issue: The Normative ‘Flavor’ of Instrumental Necessities”
“The Good, The Sad, & The Ugly: A Challenge for Aesthetic Expressivism”

Research (cont.)

INVITED TALKS

- Dec. 2023 “Othering Vice and Ideology” with Nick Laskowski, Nathan Howard, Mark Schroeder
Work In-Progress Series, Yale University.
- Feb. 2023 “Doxastic Anxiety and Doxastic Courage: When It’s Scary (Not) To Believe.”
Work In-Progress Series, Lingnan University, Hong Kong.
- Dec. 2022 “Doxastic Courage vs Epistemic Humility: Too Much of A Good Thing”
Epistemic Courage Workshop, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.
- Jan. 2022 “Normative Inference Tickets” with Jonathan Ichikawa
Philosophy Department Colloquium Series, University of Connecticut.
- Feb. 2021 “Normative Inference Tickets” with Jonathan Ichikawa
Work In-Progress Series, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Oct. 2023 “Ethics of Belief and Moral Psychology” (Panel) with Jonathan Ichikawa, Emily Tilton
Western Canadian Philosophy Association. Vancouver, Canada.
- Feb. 2022 “Normative Inference Tickets” with Jonathan Ichikawa (Symposium)
American Philosophical Association, Central Division.
- Jan. 2022 “Normative Inference Tickets” with Jonathan Ichikawa (Symposium)
American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division.
- Oct. 2021 “How Fake News Makes It Harder To Be (Doxastically) Courageous”
Public Philosophy Network 6th Annual Conference.
- July 2020 “Are Women ‘Free and Equal’ in Rawls’s Well-Ordered Society?”
Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference, University of British Columbia.
- July 2019 “Are Women ‘Free and Equal’ in Rawls’s Well-Ordered Society?”
Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (RoME), University of Colorado, Boulder.
- July 2019 “Busting the Ghost of Neutral Counterparts”
Mid-Atlantic Philosophy of Language Workshop (MAPL), West Virginia University.
- Apr. 2019 “Not-At-Issue: the Normative ‘Flavor’ of Instrumental Necessities”
American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division.
- Nov. 2018 “Not-At-Issue: the Normative ‘Flavor’ of Instrumental Necessities”
Austin Graduate Ethics & Normativity Talks (AGENT), University of Texas, Austin.
- Nov. 2018 “The Good, the Sad, and the Ugly: A Challenge for Aesthetic Expressivism?”
SoCal Student Conference in Aesthetics (SCSCA), University of San Diego.
- Sep. 2018 “Busting the Ghost of Neutral Counterparts”
The German Society for Analytic Philosophy (GAP10), Cologne, Germany.
- Sep. 2018 “Busting the Ghost of Neutral Counterparts”
Cognitive Structures 2018, Heinrich Heine University, Dusseldorf, Germany.
- Sep. 2018 “Are Women ‘Free and Equal’ in Rawls’s Well-Ordered Society?”
MANCEPT Workshop: Theories of Public Reason, University of Manchester.

CONFERENCE COMMENTS

- Jul. 2022 Shmuel Gomes’s “Moral Standing Beyond Consciousness”
Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference, University of British Columbia.

Research (cont.)

CONFERENCE COMMENTS (cont.)

- Apr. 2021 Teresa Bruno-Niño's "Limits of the Pragmatic Account of Moral Categoricity"
American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division.
- Feb. 2021 Gözde Yildirim's "Rough Heroes Revisited"
American Philosophical Association, Central Division.
- Jan. 2021 Adrienne Takaoka's "The Social Value of Insults"
American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division.
- Aug. 2019 Gretchen Ellefson's "The Cooperative Principle Revisited"
Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference, University of British Columbia.
- May 2019 Aleksy Tarasenko-Struc's "Objectification and Domination"
Bay Area Feminism and Philosophy Workshop, San Francisco, California.
- Feb. 2019 Dan Zeman's "Self-Identificatory Uses of Slurs & Their Semantics"
American Philosophical Association, Central Division.
- May 2018 Cameron Domenico Kirk-Giannini's "Slurs are Directives"
USC/UCLA Graduate Conference, University of Southern California, USA.

Teaching

PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR

- Spr. 2023 Masters Capstone Project (Supervisor)
Duan Zhuoning and Gao Yitong
Creative and Media Industries, Lingnan University
- Sm. 2019 Philosophy Mini-Course (Co-instructor with Mark Schroeder)
The Discovery Project, University of Southern California

TEACHING ASSISTANT

- Fall 2023 Freedom, Equality, and Social Justice (Phil 174), University of Southern California
- Spr. 2022 Freedom, Equality, and Social Justice (Phil 174), University of Southern California
- Spr. 2021 Foundations of Cognitive Science (Phil 246), University of Southern California
- Spr. 2020 Freedom, Equality, and Social Justice (Phil 174), University of Southern California
- Fall 2019 The Meaning of Life (Phil 168), University of Southern California
- Spr. 2018 The Meaning of Life (Phil 168), University of Southern California
- Fall 2017 Freedom, Equality, and Social Justice (Phil 174), University of Southern California

INVITED LECTURES

- Spr. 2022 "Libertarianism," Freedom, Equality, and Social Justice (*for Jonathan Quong*), USC
- Spr. 2020 "Socialism," Freedom, Equality, and Social Justice (*for Jonathan Quong*), USC
- Fall 2019 "Simone de Beauvoir and Existentialism," Meaning of Life (*for Steve Finlay*), USC
- Fall 2019 "Does God Exist?," Meaning of Life (*for Steve Finlay*), USC

WRITING CONSULTANT

- 2017-2020 Writing Center, University of Southern California
- 2014-2016 Eberly Writing Studio, West Virginia University

Public Engagement and Outreach

INITIATIVES

Cogtweeto Philosophy Workshop Series

www.cogtweeto.com

Dec. 2020 *Co-Founder*, with Cassie Finley
2021— *Lead Organizer*, with Cassie Finley

Virtual workshop series developed to make academic philosophy “radically more accessible.” Leverages existing, decentralized networks of Twitter and other social media sites and tools like Zoom and YouTube to bring those traditionally excluded from academic spaces into the philosophical conversation. Seeks to provide free, low-stakes opportunities to graduate students, independent scholars, and others with few or no institutional resources to present ongoing philosophical research.

Conceptual Foundations of Conflict Project

www.philosophy.academy

2020-2023 *Graduate Fellow*
2023-2024 *Senior Graduate Fellow*

Initiative by Mark Schroeder (USC) to apply foundational philosophical work from ethics, epistemology, philosophy of language, political philosophy, feminist philosophy, philosophy of race, as well as other disciplines to interpersonal conflict.

PRESENTATIONS

- Sep. 2023 “Cogtweeto’s Radical Accessibility: Expanding Public Philosophy Online” (Panel)
Public Philosophy Network 2023 Conference: “Facing Technology.”
with Cassie Finley, A.G. Holdier, and Jonathan McKinney
- Aug. 2023 “Ok, But Can We Talk About the Elephant in the Room (Philosophy Twitter Is Dead)”
CogTeach: By Cogtweeto and The American Association of Philosophy Teachers
with Cassie Finley
- Aug. 2023 “Get More Students At ‘Office Hours’ With This One Weird Trick”
CogTeach: By Cogtweeto and The American Association of Philosophy Teachers
- Oct. 2021 “The Inhumanity of Fake News”
Public Philosophy Network 2021 Conference: “Engagement, Policy, & Practice.” (Panel)
with A.G. Holdier, Megan Fritts, and Seth Goldwasser
- Aug. 2021 “Can Social Media Help Political Discourse?” (Panel)
Cambridge Social Media x Politics Convention.
with C. Thi Nyugen and Diana Owen

IN THE PRESS

- Aug. 2023 [“Free Online Philosophy Teaching Workshop.”](#) *Daily Nous.*
Jan. 2021 [“New Workshop Series to Bring More Philosophy to Philosophy Twitter.”](#) *Daily Nous.*

Professional Service

LEADERSHIP

Spr. 2021—	<i>Lead Organizer</i> , Cogtweeto Philosophy Workshop Series
Spr. 2021	<i>Co-Founder</i> , Cogtweeto Philosophy Workshop Series
Fall 2020—Spr. 2021	<i>President</i> , USC Philosophy Graduate Student Association
Fall 2018	<i>Co-Founder</i> , USC Philosophy Graduate Student Climate Committee
Fall 2018—Spr. 2019	<i>Co-Chair</i> , USC Philosophy Graduate Student Climate Committee
Fall 2018—Spr. 2019	<i>Co-Chair</i> , Grad Lounge Beautification Project
Fall 2018—Spr. 2019	<i>Lead Organizer</i> , Philosophy Graduate Student Peer Mentoring Program
Fall 2017—Spr. 2018	<i>President</i> , USC Philosophy Graduate Student Speculative Society
Fall 2015—Spr. 2016	<i>Eberly Student Ambassador</i> (Philosophy), West Virginia University
Fall 2014	<i>Founder</i> , WVU Undergraduate Philosophy Conference
Fall 2013—Spr. 2016	<i>President</i> , WVU Philosophy Club

FACULTY COMMITTEES

Spr. 2021—Fall 2021	<i>Representative</i> , USC Philosophy Climate Committee
Spr. 2018	<i>Representative</i> , USC Philosophy Graduate Student Recruitment Committee
Spr. 2017, 2018, 2019	<i>Prospective Student Liaison</i> , Graduate Student Recruitment Committee
Fall 2016—Spr. 2017	<i>Representative</i> , USC Philosophy Diversity and Outreach Committee

REFEREEING

2022—	<i>Ergo, Erkenntnis, Hypatia, Thought</i>
2021—	Cogtweeto Philosophy Workshop Series
2017—	USC/UCLA Philosophy Graduate Student Conference
2014—2016	WVU Undergraduate Philosophy Conference

ASSOCIATIONS

2020—	<i>Participant</i> , Words Workshop (Feminist Philosophy of Language Workshop)
2023—	<i>Senior Graduate Fellow</i> , Conceptual Foundations of Conflict Project
2019—2022	<i>Graduate Fellow</i> , Conceptual Foundations of Conflict Project
2016—	<i>Member</i> , USC Philosophy Graduate Student Association
2016—	<i>Member</i> , American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division
2016—	<i>Participant</i> , USC Philosophy Graduate Student Speculative Society

Other Affiliations and Memberships

2016	<i>Inductee</i> , Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
2013	<i>Inductee</i> , Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society
2013	<i>Inductee</i> , Sigma Delta Pi National Spanish Honor Society

Summer Seminars

Jul. 2018	CEU Ontology and Metaontology Central European University, Budapest, Hungary. <i>Directors</i> : Mark Balaguer and Ned Markosian
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References

Professor Mark Schroder <i>Dissertation Advisor</i>	University of Southern California Department of Philosophy Stonier Hall 115 Los Angeles, California U.S.A. 90089	maschroe@usc.edu
Professor Robin Jeshion <i>Dissertation Advisor</i>	University of Southern California Department of Philosophy Stonier Hall 228 Los Angeles, California U.S.A. 90089	jeshion@usc.edu
Professor Jonathan Ichikawa <i>Mentor, Co-Author</i>	University of British Columbia Department of Philosophy Buchanan Hall E 366 Vancouver, British Columbia Canada V6T 1Z1	jonathan.ichikawa@ubc.ca
Professor Jonathan Quong <i>Teaching Mentor</i>	University of Southern California Department of Philosophy Stonier Hall 114 Los Angeles, California U.S.A. 90089	quong@usc.edu
Professor Ralph Wedgwood <i>Dissertation Committee</i>	University of Southern California Department of Philosophy Mudd Hall 113 Los Angeles, CA 900 U.S.A. 90089	wedgwood@usc.edu
Professor Sharon Lloyd <i>Dissertation Committee</i>	University of Southern California Department of Philosophy Mudd Hall 113 Los Angeles, California U.S.A. 90089	lloyd@usc.edu
Professor Liam Bright <i>Mentor</i>	London School of Economics and Political Science Department of Philosophy, Logic, and Scientific Method Lakatos Building 2.05 Houghton St, London WC2A 2AE, United Kingdom	l.k.bright@lse.ac.uk