

# Jeffrey Kaplan

Curriculum Vitae

*Current as of November 6th, 2023*

## EDUCATION

PhD **University of California, Berkeley**, Philosophy, 2018

MPhil **University of Cambridge**, Philosophy, 2011

BA **Williams College**, Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, 2009

## EXPERIENCE

**University of North Carolina, Greensboro**

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 2019 - present

**UNCG Prison Education Program**, Butner Federal Prison

Founder and Director, 2022 - present

**Prison University Project**, San Quentin State Prison (now called: Mount Tamalpais College)

Volunteer Instructor, in person 2013 - 2016, by correspondence during COVID-19 pandemic

## AREAS OF RESEARCH AND TEACHING

Areas of Specialization: Philosophy of Law, Value Theory, Philosophy of Language

Areas of Competence: Early Modern Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind, Metaphysics, Ethics

## PUBLICATIONS

“A New Problem for Rules”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* forthcoming.

“The Normativity of Meaning Without the Normativity”, *Inquiry* forthcoming.

“The Structure of Semantic Norms”, *Analytic Philosophy* forthcoming.

“The Internal Point of View”, *Law and Philosophy* 42(3): 211-236 (2023).

“In Defense of Hart’s Supposedly-Refuted Theory of Rules”, *Ratio Juris* 34(4): 331-355 (2021).

“Speech, Mockery, and Sincere Concern: An Account of Trolling”, *Public Affairs Quarterly* 35(3): 204-227 (2021).

“Attitude and Social Rules, or Why It’s Okay to Slurp Your Soup”, *Philosophers’ Imprint* 21(28): 1-18 (2021).

“The Problem with Descriptive Correctness”, *Ratio* 33(2): 79-86 (2020).

“Attitude and the Normativity of Law”, *Law and Philosophy* 36(5): 469-493 (2017).

### FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Dean's Award for the Promotion of Diversity & Inclusiveness, UNC Greensboro, 2023  
Awarded to one out of the 499 faculty and staff in the College of Arts and Sciences; in recognition of the founding and operation of the UNCG Prison Education Program.

James Y. Joyner Award for Teaching Excellence, UNC Greensboro, 2023  
Awarded to one out of 263 tenure-track Assistant Professors at UNCG.

Outstanding First-Year Advocate Award, UNC Greensboro, 2022  
Awarded to one out of approximately 3,000 faculty and staff at UNCG; first faculty member to receive the award.

Humanities Teaching Fellow, UC Berkeley, 2017  
Awarded to approximately 0.1% of graduate student instructors.

Teaching Effectiveness Award, UC Berkeley, 2017  
Awarded to approximately 0.5% of graduate student instructors.

Townsend Dissertation Fellowship, UC Berkeley, 2017  
Awarded to six graduate students in the humanities; funding one year of research.

William Fink Prize in Philosophy, UC Berkeley, 2015  
Awarded for the best paper by a philosophy graduate student.

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, UC Berkeley, 2015  
Awarded to approximately 9% of graduate student instructors.

Dr. Herchel Smith Fellowship, University of Cambridge, 2009  
Awarded to six Williams College graduates. Funding two years of graduate work.

John W. Miller Prize in Philosophy, Williams College, 2009  
Awarded to “the outstanding philosophy student each year.”

Laszlo G. Versenyi Memorial Prize, Williams College, 2009  
Awarded to the best philosophy student pursuing graduate study in philosophy.

Dewey Prize, Williams College, 2009  
Awarded by College President and Deans for “most credible oration in point of composition and delivery at the commencement exercises.”

PRESENTATIONS *Blind, peer-reviewed presentations are marked with an asterisk (\*). All others are invited.*

“About Higher Education in US Prisons”, UNCG Mathematics & Statistics Colloquium, UNC Greensboro, Nov 2023.

“Why Are There Flat Earthers?”, Great Conversation Presentation, UNC Greensboro, Oct 2023.

“Incarceration and Education”, 2023 CAS Dean’s Award for the Promotion of Diversity and Inclusiveness Presentation, UNC Greensboro, Sep 2023.

“Epistemology and Cosmology: An Explanation of Flat Earthers”, UNCG Prison Education Program, Federal Correctional Institution: Butner Medium II, Aug 2023.

“Education in the Carceral System”, HNAC Cafe Panel, UNC Greensboro, Feb 2023.

“Law and Morality”, Faculty of Law, University of Central Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan, Jan 2023.

“Cognition and Study Skills”, UNCG Your First Year Success Series, Jan 2023.

“The Definition of Philosophy”, Vanguard Virtual Alumni Presentation, UNC Greensboro, Oct 2022.

“What is Philosophy?”, UNCG Prison Education Program, Federal Correctional Institution: Butner Medium II, Aug 2023.

“Semantic Power”, North Carolina Philosophical Society, Converse University, SC, Mar 2022.\*

“The Paradox at the Core of Math”, Great Conversation Presentation, UNC Greensboro, Apr 2022.

“Philosophy 101: What is Philosophy?”, UNCG Alumni All Access, UNC Greensboro, Apr 2022.

“The Plessy Doctrine and the Logic of Racism, Then and Now” with Marc Elliott, Historical Roots of Our Times lecture series, History Department, UNC Greensboro, Sep 2021.

“A Sample of Philosophy”, UNCG CHANCE Camp for Latinx High School Students, Jul 2021.

“The Problem with Descriptive Correctness”, APA Eastern Division Colloquium Presentation, New York, NY, Jan 2021.\*

“What is Philosophy?”, UNCG Online Latinx CHANCE Camp, Aug 2020.

“Does Objective Morality Exist?”, Great Conversation Presentation, UNC Greensboro, Sep 2019.

“What is Philosophy?”, UNCG CHANCE Camp for Latinx High School Students, Jul 2019.

“The Problem with Descriptive Correctness”, North Carolina Philosophical Society, UNC Greensboro, Mar 2019.\*

“Princess Elisabeth’s Objections to Descartes”, Grimsley High School IB Philosophy Problem, 2019.

“How to Make a Rule: A Defense of a Supposedly Refuted Theory”, The 11th Biennial Collective Intentionality Conference, Tufts University, 2018.\*

“How to Make a Rule: A Defense of a Supposedly Refuted Theory”, Job Talk, UNC Greensboro, 2018.

“A Defense of the Practice Theory”, Eastern APA Poster Session, Savannah, GA.\*

“Water Rights and Rule Creation”, MIST Seminar Speaker, UC Merced, 2018.

“A Defense of the Practice Theory”, International Social Ontology Conference, University of Cambridge, 2017.\*

“A Defense of the Practice Theory”, Berkeley-London Conference, UC Berkeley, 2017.\*

“Normativity and Etiquette”, Guest lecture in John Searle’s Philosophy of Society course, 2016.

“Against the Moral Attitude Constraint”, Northwest Philosophy Conference, Gonzaga University, 2016.\*

“Non-Moral Norms”, Work-in-Progress Lunch, UC Berkeley, 2015.

“The Internal Point of View”, Richard Wollheim Society, UC Berkeley, 2014.

“Kripke and Rule Following”, Presentation to Undergraduate Phil Forum, UC Berkeley, 2013.

“Descartes’s Fifth Meditation”, Two guest lectures in Hannah Ginsborg’s Modern Philosophy course, 2013

“Prefaces, Beliefs, and Mere Acceptances”, Berkeley-London Conference, University of London, 2012.\*

“Concepts and Empirical Psychology”, Richard Wollheim Society, UC Berkeley, 2011.

“Justified and Unjustified Love”, Reasons of Love International Conference, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, 2011.\*

“Williamson and the Supposed Primeness of Knowledge”, Philosophy Graduate Seminar, University of Cambridge, 2010.

“Justified True Belief is Knowledge”, MPhil Seminar, University of Cambridge, 2010.

## COURSES TAUGHT

### **UNC Greensboro**

Philosophy of Law

Philosophy of Language

Introduction to Ethics  
Introduction to Philosophy  
Minds & Brains  
Good & Evil

**San Quentin State Prison, Prison University Project** (now: Mount Tamalpais College)

Landmark US Court Cases (correspondence course during COVID lockdown)  
Introduction to Philosophy: Mind-Body Problem  
Introduction to Philosophy: Metaphysics  
Introduction to Philosophy: Epistemology  
Introduction to Philosophy: Early Modern

**UC Berkeley**

Individual Morality and Social Justice  
Hume  
Philosophy of Society  
Descartes  
Philosophy of Language  
Philosophical Methods  
Introduction to Logic  
Modern Philosophy  
Nature of Mind  
Metaphysics

**SELECTED NOTABLE SERVICE** (at UNCG)

**Director of Undergraduate Studies**, Feb 2021 - present

Responsible for undergraduate recruitment, student advising, curriculum development, membership on Undergraduate Studies Council, approval of transfer credits, and general assistance to the Department Head on other matters.

**Founder and Director of UNCG Prison Education Program**, Sep 2022 - present

Provides academic programming for people incarcerated at *Federal Correctional Institution: Butner Medium II*. Entirely unfunded; staffed exclusively by faculty volunteers.

**Member of Chancellor's Task Force on Financial Sustainability**, Feb 2023 - May 2023

Charged with identifying cost-saving opportunities in any non-academic area of university operations. Co-Chaired Student and Faculty Success Innovations Subcommittee.

**Chair of Academic Policies and Regulations Committee**, Feb 2021 - Jul 2022

Wrote and shepherded through Faculty Senate nine resolutions, including the institution of midterm grades and the elimination of an antiquated requirement that prevented students from double majoring across degree programs.

**Chair of Ad-hoc Philosophy Curriculum Overhaul Committee**, Jan 2020 - Nov 2020

Orchestrated the philosophy department's response to a new general education system that eliminated a philosophy and religion requirement for all undergraduates. The department

developed several new courses and successfully avoided a massive dropoff in philosophy course enrollment.

### ALL REMAINING SERVICE

#### **Department**

Departmental Representative at College of Arts and Science Admitted Students Major Fair, Feb 2022  
Student Success Liaison, Oct 2021 - present  
Philosophy Department Broadening Curriculum Subcommittee, Mar 2021 - May 2021  
Pre-Law Advisor, Jan 2019 - present  
Undergraduate Advisor, Oct 2019 - present  
Founder and Organizer of Philosophy Department Work-in-Progress Lunches, Sep 2019 - Mar 2020  
Presenter at Majors, Minors, and More Fair, Sep 2019  
Epistemology/Logic Tenure-Track Search Committee, Spring 2019  
Philosophy of Medicine Tenure-Track Search Committee, Spring 2019  
Berkeley-Stanford-Davis Conference Submission Reviewer (UC Berkeley), 2016  
Graduate Student Instructor Assignment Sub-Committee (UC Berkeley), 2015  
New Crop Essay Prize Judge (UC Berkeley), 2013  
Graduate Student Representative to the Philosophy Faculty (UC Berkeley), 2012  
Prospective Graduate Student Liaison (UC Berkeley), 2012  
Co-organizer of Richard Wollheim Society (UC Berkeley), 2011

#### **College**

Presentation to Annual Meeting of UNCG CAS Advancement Council, Apr 2022  
Panelist on College of Arts and Science Admitted Students Welcome Panel, Feb 2022  
Internal Reviewer (representing CAS) for NEH Grant Applications, Aug 2020  
Internal Reviewer (representing CAS) for NEH Grant Applications, Aug 2019

#### **University**

Co-Chair of Student and Faculty Success Innovations Subcommittee of Chancellor's Task Force on Financial Sustainability, Mar 2023 - May 2023  
UNC System Faculty Assembly - Historically Minority Serving Institution Committee, Oct 2022 - present  
Faculty Senate Task Force on Student Success, Oct 2022 - present  
UNC System Faculty Assembly - Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, Sep 2022 - present  
UNC System Faculty Assembly Alternate Delegate, Aug 2022 - present  
Presenter at Welcome Reception for New Faculty, Aug 2022  
Chair of Academic Integrity Faculty Advisory Group, Feb 2021 - Jul 2022  
Committee of Faculty Senate Committee Chairs, Feb 2021 - Jul 2022  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Feb 2021 - Jul 2022  
Undergraduate Studies Council, Feb 2021 - present  
Pre-Law Advisory Committee, Jan 2021 - present  
Lightboard Specialist Presenter/Interviewee UTLC, Oct 2020, Nov 2020  
Academic Policies and Regulations Committee Member, Aug 2019 - Feb 2021  
New Student House Calls, Aug 2019

**Profession**

Referee for *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, May 2023  
Referee for *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, Jan 2023  
Referee for *The Journal of Philosophy*, Jul 2022  
Referee for *Law and Philosophy*, Jan 2022  
Referee for *Theoria*, Feb 2022  
Referee for *Law and Philosophy*, Dec 2021  
Referee for *Inquiry*, Dec 2021  
Referee for *Theoria*, Nov 2021  
Referee for *Inquiry*, Jan 2020

**Community Service**

Faculty Fundraising Volunteer for Mount Tamalpais College, May 2021  
Volunteer Creator and Instructor of “Landmark US Court Cases” correspondence course  
for incarcerated students locked down due to COVID-19 through Mount Tamalpais  
College, Jan 2021 - May 2021  
Author of Supplemental Educational Material on MLK’s ‘Beyond Vietnam’ for incarcerated  
students in lockdown early in COVID-19 pandemic, Sep 2020  
Guest Lecturer and Consultant, Grimsley High School IB Philosophy Program, Feb 2019