

Margaret Shea

Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT

Caldwell Hall – Department of Philosophy, UNC Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599
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EMPLOYMENT

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 2024 –
Assistant Professor

EDUCATION

Princeton University 2019 – 2024
Ph.D in Philosophy

Brown University 2015 – 2019
B.A. in Philosophy, Magna cum laude

University of Oxford 2017 – 2018
Undergraduate year abroad

INTERESTS

AOS: moral philosophy (metaethics, normative ethics, moral psychology)

AOC: aesthetics, social and political philosophy, philosophy of action

PUBLICATIONS

“Blameworthy Required Acts”
Ethics 136/2 (2026): 354-383.

“Why Plan-Expressivists Can’t Pick Up the Moral Slack”
Oxford Studies in Metaethics 19 (2024): 129-150.

“Hypocrisy as Two-Faced”
Oxford Studies in Normative Ethics 14 (2024): 93-116. 93-116.

“What Are We to Do? Making Sense of ‘Joint Ought’ Talk” (w/ Rowan Mellor)
Philosophical Studies 182 (2024): 705-724.

IN PROGRESS

“Are Plural ‘Oughts’ Practically Significant?”

committed to *Oxford Studies in Metaethics* (pending peer review) [old title “Dilemmatic Deliberative ‘Oughts’”]

TALKS ([†] = selected by anonymous peer-review)

Departmental Colloquium – Title TBD

Cardiff University

(upcoming) March 2026

Department Talk – Title TBD

University of Leeds

(upcoming) February 2026

Departmental Colloquium – Title TBD

University of York

(upcoming) February 2026

Moral Philosophy Working Group – Title TBD

Yale University

October 2025

“Dilemmatic Deliberative ‘Oughts’” [†]

Madison Metaethics Workshop, University of Wisconsin-Madison

September 2025

“Deontic Status Tracing and Praiseworthy Required Acts”

Eastern Meeting of the American Philosophical Association

Commentator: Connie Rosati

January 2025

“Blameworthy Required Acts”

Work-in-Progress Meeting, University of Maryland, College Park

November 2024

“What Are We to Do? The Semantics and Ethics of the Joint Ought” [†]

Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado Boulder

Commentator: Mark van Roojen

August 2023

“What Are We to Do? The Semantics and Ethics of the Joint Ought” [†] (w/ Rowan Mellor)

Chapel Hill Normativity Workshop, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Commentator: Alisabeth Ayars

April 2023

“Hypocrisy as Two-Faced” [†]

Workshop in Normative Ethics, University of Arizona

January 2023

“Why Plan Expressivists Can’t Pick Up the Moral Slack” [†]

Madison Metaethics Workshop, University of Wisconsin-Madison

September 2022

“The Possibility of Irreducibly Practical Reasons” [†]

Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado Boulder

August 2022

“Against Self-Ownership”
Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, University of Utah

October 2019

INVITED COMMENTARY

Commentator on Elizabeth Harman’s <i>When to Be a Hero</i>	(upcoming) March 2026
Workshop on Harman’s book manuscript, Princeton University	
Commentator on Kenneth Walden’s “Normative Creation”	August 2025
Workshop on Metaethics and Philosophy of Action, Dartmouth College	
Commentator on Jon Garthoff’s “The Independent Value of Conscious Individuals”	May 2024
NUSTEP (Northwestern Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics), Northwestern University	

GRANTS, AWARDS & HONORS

Graduate Prize Fellowship , <i>Princeton University Center for Human Values</i>	2022 – 23
Research Assistantship Grant , <i>Princeton University</i> Research assistant to Professor Michael Smith.	2020
Merit Grant , <i>Princeton University</i> (Center for Human Values)	2019 – 2020
Phi Beta Kappa	2019
Ertegun Scholarship (declined in order to enroll at Princeton), <i>University of Oxford</i>	2019
Curt John Ducasse Premium in Metaphysics , <i>Brown University</i>	2018

TEACHING

At UNC Chapel Hill (= graduate-level)*

Advanced Studies in Moral Theory: Ignorance, Uncertainty, and Morality (w/ Alex Worsnip)	Fall 2025
Introduction to Ethics	Fall 2025
*Contemporary Moral Philosophy	Spring 2025
Introduction to Ethics	Spring 2025
*Dissertation Research Seminar	Fall 2024
(Honors) Introduction to Ethics	Fall 2024

At Princeton

Philosophy of Art (with Michael Smith)	Fall 2022
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GRADUATE ADVISING

PhD Dissertation Advisory Committee

Raye Ploeger	(ongoing)
Jackson Bittick	(ongoing)

PhD Dissertation Examination Committee

Aaron Thieme

March 2025

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Co-Organizer, Chapel Hill Normativity Workshop	2024 –
Selection Committee for the Maynard Adams Symposium, <i>UNC Carolina Public Humanities</i>	2024 – 2026
Panelist, Workshop on AI Generated Music, <i>UNC Institute for the Arts & Humanities</i>	April 2025
Graduate Admissions Committee, <i>UNC Philosophy</i>	2024 – 2025
Ethics Bibliography Exam Committee, <i>UNC Philosophy</i>	2024 – 2025
Director, Princeton Workshop in Normative Philosophy, <i>Princeton University</i>	2021 – 2023
Organizer, Princeton-Humboldt Graduate Conference, <i>Princeton University</i>	2021
Referee for <i>Ethics, Nous, Philosophical Studies</i>	

REFERENCES**Michael Smith**

McCosh Professor of Philosophy
Princeton University
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Sarah McGrath

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Mark Johnston

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Roger Crisp

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