

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

“Are Plural ‘Oughts’ Practically Significant?”

Forthcoming in *Oxford Studies in Metaethics*.

“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.

TALKS († = *selected by anonymous peer-review*)

- Title TBD** (upcoming) April 2027
Metaethics Workshop, University of Nebraska Lincoln
- Title TBD** (upcoming) November 2026
Conference in honor of Michael Smith, Princeton University
- Title TBD** (upcoming) September 2026
Departmental Colloquium, University of Texas at Austin
- “Tracing Praise”** (upcoming) July 2026
London Meeting of the PPE Society
- Title TBD** (upcoming) June 2026
Bled Ethics Conference, Bled, Slovenia
- “Moral Responsibility for Moral Requirements”**
†Forms of Exculpation Workshop, Humboldt University March 2026
Departmental Colloquium, Cardiff University March 2026
Departmental Talk, CAMP Center, University of Leeds February 2026
Departmental Colloquium, University of York February 2026
- “Dilemmatic Deliberative ‘Oughts’”**
† Madison Metaethics Workshop, University of Wisconsin-Madison September 2025
Moral Philosophy Working Group, Yale University October 2025
- “Deontic Status Tracing and Praiseworthy Required Acts”** January 2025
Eastern Meeting of the American Philosophical Association
Commentator: Connie Rosati
- “Blameworthy Required Acts”** November 2024
Work-in-Progress Meeting, University of Maryland, College Park
- “What Are We to Do? The Semantics and Ethics of the Joint Ought”** (w/ Rowan Mellor)
†Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado Boulder August 2023
Commentator: Mark van Roojen
†Chapel Hill Normativity Workshop, UNC Chapel Hill April 2023
Commentator: Alisabeth Ayars
- “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

INVITED COMMENTARY**Commentator on Elizabeth Harman’s *When to Be a Hero***

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**R.J. Reynolds Junior Faculty Development Award**, *UNC Chapel Hill*

2026-2027

Graduate Prize Fellowship, *Princeton University Center for Human Values*

2022 – 23

Research Assistantship Grant, *Princeton University*

2020

Research assistant to Professor Michael Smith.

Merit Grant, *Princeton University* (Center for Human Values)

2019 – 2020

Phi Beta Kappa

2019

Ertegun Scholarship (declined in order to enroll at Princeton), *University of Oxford*

2019

Curt John Ducasse Premium in Metaphysics, *Brown University*

2018

TEACHINGAt UNC Chapel Hill (* = graduate-level)

*Proto-Seminar in Philosophy (w/ Jim Pryor)

(upcoming) Fall 2026

Introduction to Ethics

(upcoming) Fall 2026

*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 (w/ Michael Smith)

Fall 2022

Guest Teaching

Graduate Seminar on Relational Normativity (Connie Rosati and Robbie Kubala)

(upcoming) Fall 2026

University of Texas at Austin

Junior Seminar on Metaethics (Sarah McGrath) Spring 2026
 Princeton University; syllabus included my “Why Plan-Expressivists Can’t Pick Up the Moral Slack”

GRADUATE ADVISING

PhD Dissertation Advisory Committee

Ian Cho	(ongoing)
Raye Ploeger	(ongoing)
Jackson Bittick	(ongoing)

PhD Dissertation Examination Committee

Nolan Whitaker	April 2026
Gabriella Hulsey	April 2026
Aaron Thieme	March 2025

Senior Thesis Advisor

Marli English	2026-2027
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PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

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

REFERENCES**Michael Smith**

McCosh Professor of Philosophy Emeritus
Princeton University
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Gideon Rosen

Stuart Professor of Philosophy
Princeton University
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Roger Crisp

Professor of Moral Philosophy
Uehiro Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy
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Sarah McGrath

Professor
Princeton University
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(609) 258-4308

Mark Johnston

Henry Putnam University Professor of Philosophy
Princeton University
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(609) 258-4290