

Aaron Ansell

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor Bentley University, Department of Philosophy	since 2019
Postdoctoral Fellow-In-Residence Harvard University, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics	2018 – 2019
Postdoctoral Fellow University of Toronto, Centre for Ethics	2017 – 2018

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, Duke University Dissertation: <i>Public Unreason: Essays on Political Disagreement</i> Committee: Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, Allen Buchanan, Wayne Norman, David Wong	2017
B.A. (Honours), Philosophy, Simon Fraser University	2011

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

1. Ansell, A. (2020) "Political Irrationality, Utopianism, and Democratic Theory." *Politics, Philosophy and Economics* 19(1): 3-21.
2. Ansell, A. (2019) "The Fact of Unreasonable Pluralism." *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 5(4): 410-428.
3. Ansell, A. & Sinnott-Armstrong, W. (2019) "The Need for Feasible Compromises on Conscientious Objection: Response to Card." *Journal of Medical Ethics* 45(8): 560-561.
4. Norman, W. & Ansell, A. (2018) "Democratic Theory for a Market Democracy: The Problem of Merriment and Diversion When Regulators and the Regulated Meet." *Journal of Social Philosophy* 49(4): 536-563.
5. Ansell, A. (2017) "Democracy isn't *that* smart (but we can make it smarter): On Landemore's *Democratic Reason*." *Episteme* 14(2): 161-175.
6. Ansell, A. & Sinnott-Armstrong, W. (2017) "How to Allow Conscientious Objection in Medicine While Protecting Patient Rights." *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics* 26(1): 120-131.

7. Flanagan, O., **Ancell, A.** Martin, S. & Steenbergen, G. (2014) "Empiricism and normative ethics: What do the biology and the psychology of morality have to do with ethics?" *Behaviour* (Special Issue: *Evolved Morality: The Biology and Philosophy of Human Conscience* edited by Frans de Waal, Patricia Churchland, Telmo Pievani, and Stefano Parmigiani) 151 (2-3): 208-228.
8. McColeman, C., **Ancell, A.** & Blair, M. (2011) "A tale of two processes: Categorization accuracy and attentional learning dissociate with imperfect feedback" *Proceedings of the 33rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*: 1661-1666.

Invited Articles and Book Chapters

9. **Ancell, A.** (in press) "Liberalism," in Tom Palmer and William Galston (eds.) *Truth and Governance*, Washington DC: Brookings Institute Press.

Other Scholarly Outputs

Ancell, A. "Soundness" (2014) video for Wireless Philosophy (>150,000 views)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3P0fUHUaZcs>

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

"Corporate Counterspeech"	July 2021
<i>Workshop on Counterspeech</i> Online	
"Ideal and Non-Ideal Theory in Business Ethics"	August 2020
<i>Society for Business Ethics Annual Conference</i> Online	
"Who Knows What? Corporate Responsibility in the 21 st -Century Regulatory State" (with Wayne Norman)	August 2019
<i>Society for Business Ethics Annual Conference</i> Boston, MA	
"What is political polarization and when is it bad?"	September 2018
<i>MANCEPT Workshop: Truth, Knowledge, and Political Disagreement</i> University of Manchester, U.K.	
"Compromising Justice: Should we be principled or pragmatic?"	June 2018
<i>Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting</i> University of Montreal, Canada	
"Dirty Compromises: The Ethics of Making Concessions to Injustice?"	April 2018
<i>C4E-CRE Joint Workshop</i> University of Toronto, Canada	
"Utopianism and Political Irrationality"	January 2018
<i>American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting</i> Savanna, GA	

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- "Utopianism and Political Irrationality" October
Western Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting 2017
University of Regina, Canada
- "The Fact of Unreasonable Pluralism" March
American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting 2017
Kansas City, MO
- "The Fact of Unreasonable Pluralism" May
Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress 2016
University of Calgary, Canada
- "The Fact of Unreasonable Pluralism" February
North Carolina Philosophical Society Annual Meeting 2016
Appalachian State University, NC
- "We Want Kids Too: Should Doctors Be Allowed to Refuse to Help Gay
Couples Have Children?" (with Walter Sinnott-Armstrong) November
Conscience and Conscientious Objection in Healthcare 2015
University of Oxford, U.K.
- "Democracy and the Regulatory State: Why it's time to end the benign
neglect, and how to begin to do so" (with Wayne Norman) August
Society for Business Ethics Annual Conference 2015
Vancouver, Canada
- "Democracy and the Regulatory State: Why it's time to end the benign
neglect, and how to begin to do so" (with Wayne Norman) June
Association for Social and Political Philosophy Annual Conference 2015
University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
- "Reasonable Compromises with Unreasonable Views" May
Compromise and Disagreement 2015
University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- "Weak and Strong Action-Guiding in Ideal Theories" (with Orlin Vakarelov) April
American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting 2015
Vancouver, Canada
- "Weak and Strong Action-Guiding in Ideal Theories" (with Orlin Vakarelov) February
North Carolina Philosophical Society Annual Meeting 2015
North Carolina State University, USA
- "Contrastive Closure is Still Wide Open" February
North Carolina Philosophical Society Annual Meeting 2014
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA

Invited Talks

- "Dirty Compromises: The Ethics of Making Concessions to Injustice" October
Lake Forest College 2018
Lake Forest, IL

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“What is Political Polarization and When is it Bad?” <i>Kenan Institute for Ethics</i> Duke University, Durham, NC	October 2018
“To Nudge or Not to Nudge? You Don’t Really Have a Choice.” <i>Business Ethics Speakers Series</i> Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada	March 2018
Comments	
On Elizabeth Edenberg’s “Rawlsian Disagreement and Epistemic Peers” <i>American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting</i> Vancouver, Canada	April 2019
On Mihailis Diamantis’s “The Extended Corporate Mind” <i>Business Ethics in a Digital Age</i> Harvard Business School, Cambridge MA	April 2019
On Jordan Thomson’s “Having it Good Without Being Bad: Toward A Defense of Moral Moderation” <i>Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting</i> University of Montreal, Canada	May 2018
On Howard Nye’s “In Defense of a Harm-Based Account of the Default Wrongness of Killing” <i>Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting</i> University of Montreal, Canada	June 2018
On Whitney Lilly’s “Constitutive Attitudes and the Suspension of Judgment” <i>Western Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting</i> University of Regina, Canada	October 2017

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Katherine Goodman Stern Fellowship – Duke University	2016-2017
Summer Research Fellowships – Duke University	2014, 2015
Nannerl Keohane Distinguished Visiting Professorship Graduate Student Research Award – Duke University and UNC, Chapel Hill	2014
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Fellowship – Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)	2011-2015
Kenan Graduate Fellowship – Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University	2011-2012
National Sciences and Engineering Research Council Undergraduate Student Research Award – National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)	2010
Peter Horban Undergraduate Essay Prize – Simon Fraser University	2010

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

As Sole Instructor

Bentley University

PH 101: Problems of Philosophy
PH 131: Philosophy of Work
PH 312: Liberty, Morality, and Law

University of Toronto

ETH201: Contemporary Moral Problems
ETH230: Morality in Cross Cultural Perspective

Duke University

Phil103S: Introduction to Philosophy
Phil150S: Logic

As Teaching Assistant

Duke University

Ethics490: Capstone Seminar in Ethics - Spring 2014 – with Walter Sinnott-Armstrong
Phil203: History of Ancient Philosophy - Spring 2013 – with Michael Ferejohn
Phil262: Human Rights Theory and Practice - Fall 2013 – with Allen Buchanan

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY AND PROFESSION

Service at Bentley University

Committee Member, Teaching and Scholarly Activities Committee	since 2020
Faculty Advisor, College Kindness student organization	since 2021
Committee Member, Communications Sequence Working Group	since 2021

Reviewing

Political Studies; Philosophy, Politics, and Economics; Philosophical Imprint; Journal of Value Inquiry; MIT Press; Society for Business Ethics

Other Service

National High School Ethics Bowl – Judge	2015, 2016
North Carolina High School Ethics Bowl – Judge	2016
Duke Philosophy Undergraduate Society – Moderator	2016-2017