

AGNES TAM

Department of Philosophy, University of Calgary
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RESEARCH AREAS

AOS: Social and Political philosophy; Group Agency and Reasoning
AOC: Applied Ethics, Social Epistemology, Chinese Philosophy

APPOINTMENTS

2022-present **Assistant Professor**, Department of Philosophy, University of Calgary
2021-2022 **Banting Postdoctoral Fellow**, Research Group on Constitutional Studies, McGill University
2020-21 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Social Justice Centre, Concordia University (Montreal)
2020-2022 **Affiliated Postdoctoral Fellow**, Centre de Recherche en Éthique
2014-2022 **Affiliated Scholar**, *Animals in Philosophy, Politics, Law and Ethics*, Queen's University

EDUCATION

2020 **PhD**, Philosophy, Queen's University (Kingston)
2013 **MSc**, Political Theory, London School of Economics and Political Science
2010 **LLB**, Law, University of Hong Kong
2009 **Exchange JD**, Law, Tulane University

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

2020 "The Legitimacy of Groups: Toward a We-Reasoning View", *Analyse & Kritik* 42(2): 343-68.
2020 "Why Moral Reasoning is Insufficient for Moral Progress", *Journal of Political Philosophy* 28(1): 73-96.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Forthcoming "Being Popular and Being Just: How Animal Protection Organizations Can be Both", in V. Giroux, A. Pepper, and K. Voigt (eds.), *Ethics of Animal Shelters*, Oxford University Press (with Will Kymlicka).

2021 “A Case for Political Epistemic Trust”, in K. Vallier and M. Weber (eds.), *Social Trust*, Routledge, 220-41.

OVERVIEWS, COMMENTARIES, ETC.

Forthcoming “Progress”, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (with Margaret Meek Lange)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Critical Notice on Philip Kitcher’s Moral Progress”, *Analysis*

“Social Movements as Identity Politics: A Normative Reassessment”

“Solidarity: Thick and Thin” (in preparation)

“A Liberal Answer to Populism: Narrating Stories of Peoplehood via Electoral Democracy” (in preparation)

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

Forthcoming “Paradox of We-reasoning”, *Aeon Magazine*

2019 “如果良知不夠用，逆權運動該如何走下去?”[The Limits of Conscience: How to Continue Hong Kong’s Anti-Authoritarian Struggle?] *TheStandNews*, July 10 (in Chinese)

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCES AND INVITED TALKS

2023 “Solidarity: Thick and Thin”
Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Alberta (invited)

Jan 2023 Comments on Laurence, “Agents of Change”
APA Eastern Division Meeting main program, Montreal (invited)

Sep 2022 “Democratic Value of Social Movement as Identity Politics”
Workshop on Human Rights and Marginalized Agency, McGill (invited)

Mar 2022 “A Liberal Answer to Populism: Narrating Stories of Peoplehood via Electoral Democracy”
Midi de l’éthique du CRÉ, University of Montreal (invited)

Sep 2021 “Solidarity in Social Movements: a We-perspective”
Workshop on Uses of Solidarity, MANCEPT
Oct 2021 *Research Group on Constitutional Studies WIP Workshop*, McGill (invited)
Nov 2021 *Political Philosophy Reading Group*, Queen’s University (invited)
Mar 2022 *Philosophy Speaker Series*, University of Calgary (invited)

- May 2021 **“Do Liberals Have to Fear Identity-Expressive Populism?”**
Political Theory In/And/As Political Science Workshop, McGill, Stanford, New York University, and Duke
- Apr 2021 *Political Theory of Populism Workshop*, Concordia University (invited)
- Sep 2020 **“Identity-Expressive Populism and its Challenges to Normative Political Theory”**
Workshop on Alternative Forms of Government, MANCEPT
- Aug 2020 **Comments on Basevich, “W.E.B. Du Bois’s Theory of Justice”**
Social Justice Theory Workshop, August 2020, Concordia University and Université de Montréal.
- Mar 2019 **“The Role for Social Norms in Applied Ethics: A Case Study from Vegan Advocacy”**
(with Will Kymlicka)
GRÉEA/CRÉ/Montreal SPCA Workshop (invited)
- Jun 2018 **“The Limits of Epistemic Egalitarianism: Why Different Types of Biases Require Different Remedies”**
Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting, Montreal
- Aug 2017 *Summer School of Social Epistemology*, Autonomous University of Madrid
- May 2018 **“Making Sense of the Authority of Social Norms”**
Conference on Normative Power, Université de Montréal and McGill University (poster)
- Mar 2018 *Philosophy Department Colloquium*, Queen’s University (invited)
- Sep 2016 *Workshop on Political Theory of Social Norms*, MANCEPT
- Apr 2018 **“Democratic Accountability or Social Trust”**
Workshop in Applied Ethics and Public Policy: Social Trust, Bowling Green State University
- Nov 2016 **“Enabling Moral Progress for Factory Farming: Beyond Contention and Deliberation”**
Animal Politics: Justice, Power and the State, International School of Philosophy

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2020 Postdoctoral Fellowship, *Justitia Amplificata*, Goethe University (declined)
- 2018 Dr. H. Martyn Estall Award in Philosophy (award for one grad student each year to attend the Canadian Philosophy Association Conference), Queen’s University
- 2017 A.R.C. Duncan Prize for Excellence in Teaching, Queen’s University
- 2014-2018 Principal’s International Doctoral Award, Queen’s University
- 2014-2018 Queen’s Graduate Award, Queen’s University
- 2014-2018 International Tuition Award, Queen’s University
- 2013-2014 Honorary Fellow, Hong Kong Sir Edward Youde Overseas Fellowship
- 2013 Centre for Animal and Social Justice Scholarship, Sheffield University (declined)
- 2009 Champion, Animal Ethics Essay Competition, Hong Kong SPCA

TEACHING

- 2017 **Teaching Award**
A.R.C. Duncan Prize for Excellence in Teaching, Queen's University (awarded to one TA in the Department of Philosophy each year)
- 2023 **Graduate Teaching**
Social Justice and Change (U of C seminar)
- 2022,23 **Undergraduate Teaching**
Contemporary Moral Problems (U of C lecture course)
2019 Animals and Society (Queen's lecture course)
- Teaching Assistant**
- 2017 Ancient Philosophy (Queen's, Stephen Leighton)
2016 Environmental Ethics (Queen's, Mick Smith)
2015 Great Works in Philosophy (Queen's, Jon Miller)
2014 Foundations of Philosophy (Queen's, Mark Smith)
2014 Following the *Dao* (University of Hong Kong, Dan Robins)
2014 Philosophy East and West (University of Hong Kong, Chris Fraser)
2013 Humanity and Nature in Chinese Thought (University of Hong Kong, Chad Hansen)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018 **Contributor, GRÉEA, CRÉ and the Montreal SPCA**
Principal Investigators: Kristin Voigt, Valéry Giroux, and Élise Desaulniers
- Collaborated with a team of moral philosophers in a SSHRC-sponsored project: "Animal Welfare Organisations: Responding to Ethical Challenges"
 - Collected information and testimonies from the Montreal SPCA staff regarding their ethical dilemmas in daily operation
 - Drafted ethical guidelines and policy recommendations for the Montreal SPCA
- 2018 **Researcher, Philosophy, Queen's University**
Principal Investigator: Will Kymlicka
- Participated in a field trip to VINE farm sanctuary with researchers from philosophy, cultural studies, and geography to jointly investigate the suitability of animal sanctuaries as sites of experiential learning
- 2011 **Research Assistant, Philosophy, University of Hong Kong**
Advisors: Chad Hansen, Chris Fraser, and Dan Robins
- Reviewed and edited reading and teaching materials for courses on Chinese Philosophy, including *Early Chinese Political Thought, Ethics and Politics: East and West*, and *Philosophy of Zhuangzi*
- 2010 **Research Assistant, Animal Legal Defense Fund (US)**
Advisor: Matthew Liebman
- Reviewed, translated, and analyzed animal experimentation laws and policies in the People's Republic of China

- Interviewed officials, scholars, and practitioners in animal science
- Research assistance credited in resulting publication by Bruce Wagman and Matthew Liebman, *A Worldview of Animal Law* (Carolina Academic Press, 2011)

2009 **Research Assistant, Centre for Comparative and Public Law, University of Hong Kong**

Advisor: Amanda Whitfort

- Conducted a comparative review of animal welfare law in Hong Kong, Singapore, the UK, and New Zealand
- Research assistance credited in the resulting publication *Review of Animal Welfare Legislation in Hong Kong 2011*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2010-2011 **Senior Cruelty Case and Legal Officer, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (Asia-Pacific)**

- Investigated animal abuse cases and researched legal grounds for prosecution
- Coordinated and conducted humane education outreach
- Networked with local governments, animal welfare organizations, and activists
- Coordinated media campaigns on animal rights

ACADEMIC SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

2021 **Workshop Organizer (Chair)**, *Political Theory of Populism*, April 2021, Social Justice Centre (Concordia) and GRIPP (McGill)

2020- **Referee**, *Constellations* (1x), *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* (1x), *CPA* (1x)

2022 PhD thesis, Andrew Allison (U of C)
PhD thesis, Chantal Bazinet (U of C)

Feb 2017 **Speaker**, “Diversity in Philosophy” of *Equity and Women’s Concerns Committee Event Series*, Queen’s University (invited)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2017-2020 Executive Committee Member, Queen’s Animal Defense

May 2012 Invited Speaker, *My Hong Kong Dream*, Hong Kong Civic Education Foundation

Mar 2012 Invited Speaker, *Animal Ethics*, Hong Kong University Graduate Association College

Nov 2011 Invited Speaker, *Meatless Monday Series*, University of Hong Kong

Nov 2011 Invited Speaker, *Life Education Series*, Wai Kiu College

SELECTED INTERVIEWS

Mar 2019 Radio Television Hong Kong (co-produced by Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong), *A Legal Journey: Imprint of the Times*, available at https://www.rthk.hk/tv/dtt31/programme/alegaljourney_eng/episode/576099

(a docudrama about my struggles as a right of abode fighter and defender of animal rights)

Oct 2011 Hong Kong Lawyer, *Giving Animals a Voice in Hong Kong* (interviewed by Wilda Fong)

Jul 2011 Apple Daily, *The Right of Abode Fighter: Public Opinion Can Change the World* (interviewed by Lai-Sim Lui)

LANGUAGES

English: Fluent

Cantonese: Native

Mandarin: Fluent
