

Agnes Tam

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RESEARCH AREAS

AOS: Social and Political philosophy; “We”-Reasoning; Social Norms; Progress
AOC: Applied Ethics, Social Ontology, Chinese Philosophy

APPOINTMENTS

2025 **Visiting Fellow**, Normative Orders Research Centre, Goethe University (Frankfurt)
2022– **Assistant Professor (Tenure-Track)**, Department of Philosophy, University of Calgary
2023-2024 **Resident Fellow in Applied Ethics**, Calgary Institute for the Humanities
2021-2022 **Banting Postdoctoral Fellow**, Research Group on Constitutional Studies, McGill University
 (Project: *Solidaristic Partisanship* ranked #3/196; Supervisor: Jacob Levy)
2020-21 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Social Justice Centre, Concordia University (Montreal)
 (Project: *Social Reason*; Supervisor: Pablo Gilabert)
2020-2022 **Affiliated Postdoctoral Fellow**, Centre de Recherche en Éthique (Montreal)
2014– **Affiliated Scholar**, *Animals in Philosophy, Politics, Law and Ethics*, Queen’s University

EDUCATION

2020 **PhD in Philosophy**, Queen’s University (Kingston)
 (Dissertation: *Norms, Reasons, and Moral Progress*; Supervisor: Will Kymlicka)
2013 **MSc in Political Theory**, London School of Economics and Political Science
2010 **LLB**, Law, University of Hong Kong
2009 **Exchange JD**, Law, Tulane University (New Orleans)

SCHOLARSHIP

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

2026 **Social Movements as Agents of Change?** *Philosophia*. Online first.

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

2023 **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).

2023 **The Ethics of Animals: Guidelines and Recommendations**, in V. Giroux, A. Pepper, and K. Voigt (eds.), *Ethics of Animal Shelters*, Oxford University Press (with Valéry Giroux, Angie Pepper, Kristin Voigt, Frédéric Côté-Boudreau, Nicolas Delon, Sue Donaldson, François Jaquet, Will Kymlicka, Angela Martin)

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

OVERVIEWS, COMMENTARIES, ETC.

2024 **Progress**, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (substantive revision; originally authored by Margaret Meek Lange)

2025 **Reviving the Project of Moral Progress: A Pragmatist Attempt and Its Limits. Analysis** (Critical Notice). Online first.

PUBLIC WRITING

2024 **What's In a Name? That Which We Call Home? Permanent Collection.**
<https://permanentcollection.eskerfoundation.com/essays/whats-in-a-name-thatwhich-we-call-home/>

2019 **The Limits of Conscience: How to Continue Hong Kong's Anti-Authoritarian Struggle?** TheStandNews, July 10 (in Chinese)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“The Social Normativity of Social Norms: A Relational and Historical View”

“Two Conceptions of Belonging”

“Local Legends: Multiversional, Place-Centered Narratives of Belonging in Diverse Societies” (in preparation with Martin Wagner)

“Trust, Belonging, Right-wing Populism”

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCES AND INVITED TALKS

Narrativity of Social Norm and Change

June 2026	Moral Progress Individual & Collective Seminar , Institute of Philosophy, Zagreb (Invited) Comment on Ó Laoghaire, “The Significance of Success: Economic Development as a Source of Political Legitimacy”
April 2026	TOMATO² , Georgetown University, Washington D.C (Invited)
	“Trust, Belonging, and Right-Wing Populism”
Dec 2025	Theory Colloquium , Research Institute for Social Cohesion, Frankfurt (Invited)
Dec 2025	Philosophy Seminar , Philipps-University Marburg, Marburg (Invited)
	“Inclusion is not Belonging”
Nov 2025	Ethics of the Social Workshop , UCL, London (Invited)
	“The Social Normativity of Social Norms: A Relational and Historical View”
Nov 2025	Political Theory Seminar , LSE, London (Invited)
	“Legends Reappraised: Toward Inclusive Narratives of Belonging”
Nov 2025	Department of Humanities Colloquium , University of Trento, Trento (Invited)
	“Why Conform to Social Norms: A New Homo Sociologicus Explanation”
Jul 2025	PPE Society London Annual Conference , KCL
Jul 2025	Normative Orders Colloquium , Goethe University Frankfurt (invited)
Oct 2025	Groups and Normativity Workshop , University of Vienna (invited)
	“Two Conceptions of Belonging”
Jul 2024	International Social Ontology Society Annual Conference , Duke University
	“Social Movements as Agents of Change?”
Aug 2024	Trust and Extremism Summer Workshop , University of Lethbridge (invited)
Sep 2024	Progress Workshop , McGill University (invited)
	“Toward an Ethics of Belonging”
Mar 2024	The 4th Annual Lecture in Applied Ethics , Calgary Institute for the Humanities and Calgary Public Library (invited)
Mar 2024	2024 F.E.L. Priestley Lecture Series and Keynote , University of Lethbridge (invited)
	“Telling a Better Story of Who We Are”
Oct 2023	Public Lecture , The Apeiron Society for the Practice of Philosophy, Calgary (invited)
	Comments on Bashovski, “The Novelty of Political Violence: Everything Old is New Again”
Jun 2023	Oddities of Violence , University of Calgary (invited)
	“Solidarity as Narrative We-Agency”
Aug 2023	International Social Ontology Society Annual Conference , Stockholm
May 2023	Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting , Toronto
	“Recognizing Children’s We-agency in Social Movement Activism” (with Edward van Daalen)
May 2023	Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting , Toronto

Mar 2023 **“Democratic Value of Social Movement as Identity Politics”**
 Sep 2022 *Philosophy Department Colloquium*, University of Alberta (invited)
 Workshop on Human Rights and Marginalized Agency, McGill (invited)

Jan 2023 **Comments on Laurence, “Agents of Change”**
 APA Eastern Division Meeting main program, Montreal (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”**
 Oct 2021 *Workshop on Uses of Solidarity*, MANCEPT
 Nov 2021 *Research Group on Constitutional Studies WIP Workshop*, McGill (invited)
 Mar 2022 *Political Philosophy Reading Group*, Queen's University (invited)
 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”**
 Mar 2018 *Conference on Normative Power*, Université de Montréal and McGill University (poster)
 Sep 2016 *Philosophy Department Colloquium*, Queen's University (invited)
 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

RESEARCH FUNDS, SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

GRANTS

2025-26 Calgary Institute for the Humanities Transdisciplinary Working Group: *Ethics and Politics of Narratives* (with Martin Wagner), \$2200

2024-26 SSHRC Insight Development Grant: *Toward Narrative Democracy: A New Ethical Model of Inclusive Belonging*, \$50,019 (ranked 1st)

2024-25 Calgary Institute for the Humanities Transdisciplinary Working Group: *Ethics and Politics of Narratives* (with Martin Wagner), \$3000

HONORS AND AWARDS

2025 Outstanding Achievement Award, University of Calgary

2025 Visiting Fellowship, Normative Orders Research Centre, Goethe University

2023 Resident Fellowship in Applied Ethics, Calgary Institute for the Humanities

2021 Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship, McGill University

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 (awarded to one TA in the Department of Philosophy each year)

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

GRADUATE TEACHING

2026 Ethics of Community (UCalgary seminar)

2025 Narrative Politics (UCalgary seminar)

2024 Tribalism (UCalgary seminar)

2023 Social Justice and Change (UCalgary seminar)

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

2025, 26 Morality, Virtue, and Society (UCalgary lecture course)

2022,23,24 Contemporary Moral Problems (UCalgary lecture course)

2019 Animals and Society (Queen’s lecture course)

TEACHING ASSISTANCE

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 <i>Dao</i> (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)
2011	Early Chinese Political Thought, Philosophy of Zhuangzi (Chris Fraser)

SUPERVISION

GRADUATE SUPERVISION

2025–	MA supervisor, Sofia Huarte-Aguilar (UCalgary, Philosophy)
2024–	MA Co-supervisor, Alessandro Sina (Università di Trento, Philosophy, co-supervisor: Michele Nicoletti)
2023–	PhD Committee Member, Setareh Ezzatabdi (UCalgary, Philosophy)
2023–	PhD Committee member, Andrew Allison (UCalgary, Philosophy)
2023–	PhD Committee member for Mohammad Shokri (UCalgary, Philosophy)

UNDERGRADUATE SUPERVISION

2023	Honours Thesis Supervisor, Kaylee Ma (UCalgary, Philosophy) UCalgary Program for Undergraduate Research Experience Award for Kaylee Ma
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SERVICE TO PROFESSION

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

2022, 2024	Member, Graduate Committee
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PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

2024-26	Co-Chair of Equity Committee, Canadian Philosophical Association
2024-26	Co-convenor, Transdisciplinary Working Group: Ethics and Politics of Narrative, Calgary Institute for the Humanities

REVIEWER

2020-	<i>Journal of Political Philosophy</i> (1x), <i>Constellations</i> (1x), <i>Ethical Theory and Moral Practice</i> (2x), CPA Annual Meeting (3x), <i>The Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy</i> (1x), <i>Theoria</i> (1x)
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ACTIVITIES

Jun 2026	Co-organizer (with Stephanie Kapusta) <i>Equity Committee Session</i> , Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting (Dalhousie University)
Jul 2025	Co-organizer (with Carlo Cordasco) <i>Political Philosophy of Social Norms Session</i> , PPE Society London Annual Meeting (KCL)

Jun 2025	Co-organizer (with Stephanie Kapusta) <i>Equity Committee Session</i> , Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting (George Brown College)
2024-25	Co-organizer (with Martin Wagner) <i>Research Seminars Series</i> , Transdisciplinary Working Group: Ethics and Politics of Narrative, Calgary Institute for the Humanities
May 2023	Co-organizer (with Federica Berdini) <i>The Varieties and Values of Agency</i> , Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting (York)
Mar 2023	Speaker, <i>Philosophia Writing Workshop</i> , University of Calgary
Apr 2021	Organizer, <i>Political Theory of Populism Workshop</i> , April 2021, Social Justice Centre (Concordia) and GRIPP (McGill)
Feb 2017	Speaker, "Diversity in Philosophy" of <i>Equity and Women's Concerns Committee Event Series</i> , Queen's University
May 2012	Speaker, <i>My Hong Kong Dream</i> , Hong Kong Civic Education Foundation
Mar 2012	Speaker, <i>Animal Ethics</i> , Hong Kong University Graduate Association College
Nov 2011	Speaker, <i>Meatless Monday Series</i> , University of Hong Kong

LEGAL RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY EXPERIENCE

APPOINTMENTS

2010	Research Assistant, Animal Legal Defense Fund (US) Advisor: Matthew Liebman <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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, <i>A Worldview of Animal Law</i> (Carolina Academic Press, 2011)
2009	Research Assistant, Centre for Comparative and Public Law, University of Hong Kong Advisor: Amanda Whitfort <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conducted a comparative review of animal welfare law in Hong Kong, Singapore, the UK, and New Zealand ▪ Research assistance credited in the resulting publication <i>Review of Animal Welfare Legislation in Hong Kong 2011</i>
2010-2011	Senior Cruelty Case and Legal Officer, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (Asia-Pacific) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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

SELECTED INTERVIEWS

Mar 2019	Radio Television Hong Kong (co-produced by Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong), <i>A Legal Journey: Imprint of the Times</i> , 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)
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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)