

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

2023-2024 **Resident Fellow in Applied Ethics**, Calgary Institute for the Humanities
2022- **Assistant Professor**, Department of Philosophy, University of Calgary
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
2014-2022 **Affiliated Scholar**, *Animals in Philosophy, Politics, Law and Ethics*, Queen's University

EDUCATION

2020 **PhD**, Philosophy, Queen's University (Kingston)
(Dissertation: *Norms, Reasons, and Moral Progress*; Supervisor: Will Kymlicka)
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

- 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).
- 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 Reviews*

“Social Movements as Agents of Change” (Under review)

“Solidarity as Narrative We-Agency” (in preparation)

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

“Recognizing Children’s We-agency in Social Movement Activism” (with Edward van Daalen) (in preparation)

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

- 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

- Mar 2024 “**Ethics for a Tribalistic World**”
The 4th Annual Lecture in Applied Ethics, Calgary institute for the Humanities (invited)
- Oct 2023 “**Telling a Better Story of Who We Are**”
The Apeiron Society for the Practice of Philosophy, Calgary (invited)
- Jun 2023 **Comments on Bashovski, “The Novelty of Political Violence: Everything Old is New Again”**
Oddities of Violence, University of Calgary (invited)

- Aug 2023 **“Solidarity as Narrative We-Agency”**
Social Ontology Conference, Stockholm
- May 2023 *Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting, Toronto*
- May 2023 **“Recognizing Children’s We-agency in Social Movement Activism”** (with Edward van Daalen)
Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting, Toronto
- Mar 2023 **“Democratic Value of Social Movement as Identity Politics”**
Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Alberta (invited)
- Sep 2022 *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”**
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*
- “Making Sense of the Authority of Social Norms”**

May 2018	<i>Conference on Normative Power</i> , Université de Montréal and McGill University (poster)
Mar 2018	<i>Philosophy Department Colloquium</i> , Queen's University (invited)
Sep 2016	<i>Workshop on Political Theory of Social Norms</i> , MANCEPT
"Democratic Accountability or Social Trust"	
Apr 2018	<i>Workshop in Applied Ethics and Public Policy: Social Trust</i> , Bowling Green State University
"Enabling Moral Progress for Factory Farming: Beyond Contention and Deliberation"	
Nov 2016	<i>Animal Politics: Justice, Power and the State</i> , International School of Philosophy

HONORS AND AWARDS

2023	Resident Fellowship in Applied Ethics, Calgary Institute for the Humanities (2 half courses buy-out)
2020	Postdoctoral Fellowship, <i>Justitia Amplificata</i> , 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

Teaching Award	
2017	A.R.C. Duncan Prize for Excellence in Teaching, Queen's University (awarded to one TA in the Department of Philosophy each year)
Graduate Teaching	
2023	Social Justice and Change (U of C seminar)
2023	Tribalism (U of C seminar)
Undergraduate Teaching	
2022,23	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 <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)

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

2022	Graduate Committee Member , University of Calgary
2021-	Conference Organizer <i>The Varieties and Values of Agency</i> (with Federica Berdini), May 2023, Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting <i>Political Theory of Populism</i> , April 2021, Social Justice Centre (Concordia) and GRIPP (McGill)
2020-	Referee <i>Journal of Political Philosophy</i> , <i>Constellations</i> (1x), <i>Ethical Theory and Moral Practice</i> (1x), <i>CPA</i> (3x)
2022	Student Supervision Kaylee Ma (Program for Undergraduate Research Experience Award, 2023) Mohammad Shokri (PhD, University of Calgary) Setareh Ezzatabadi (PhD, University of Calgary)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Mar 2023	Speaker, Philosophia Writing Workshop, University of Calgary
2017-2020	Executive Committee Member, Queen's Animal Defense
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
Nov 2011	Speaker, <i>Life Education Series</i> , Wai Kiu College

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)
Oct 2011	Hong Kong Lawyer, <i>Giving Animals a Voice in Hong Kong</i> (interviewed by Wilda Fong)
Jul 2011	Apple Daily, <i>The Right of Abode Fighter: Public Opinion Can Change the World</i> (interviewed by Lai-Sim Lui)

LANGUAGES

English: Fluent **Cantonese:** Native **Mandarin:** Fluent