

# AGNES TAM

Department of Philosophy, University of Calgary  
1210 Social Sciences Building  
2500 University Drive NW  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
T2N 1N4

Email: [agnes.tam@ucalgary.ca](mailto:agnes.tam@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [agnestam.net/](http://agnestam.net/)

## RESEARCH AREAS

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

## APPOINTMENTS

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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

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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

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### 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

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- “Social Movements as Identity Politics: A Normative Reassessment” (R&R)
- “Solidarity as Narrative We-Agency” (in preparation)
- “Recognizing Children’s We-agency in Social Movement Activism” (with Edward van Daalen), *Inter Gentes*
- “Critical Notice on Philip Kitcher’s Moral Progress”, *Analysis*
- “A Liberal Answer to Populism: Narrating Stories of Peoplehood via Electoral Democracy” (in preparation)

## PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

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- Forthcoming “Paradox of We-reasoning: How We are the Problem and the Solution to Social Change”, *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

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- May 2023 “Solidarity as Narrative We-Agency”  
*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
- 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
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## HONORS AND AWARDS

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

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	<b>Teaching Award</b>
2017	A.R.C. Duncan Prize for Excellence in Teaching, Queen's University (awarded to one TA in the Department of Philosophy each year)
	<b>Graduate Teaching</b>
2023	Social Justice and Change (U of C seminar)
2023	Tribalism (U of C seminar)
	<b>Undergraduate Teaching</b>
2023	Law and Morality (U of C lecture course)
2022,23	Contemporary Moral Problems (U of C lecture course)
2019	Animals and Society (Queen's lecture course)
	<b>Teaching Assistant</b>
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

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2018	<b>Contributor, GRÉEA, CRÉ and the Montreal SPCA</b> Principal Investigators: Kristin Voigt, Valéry Giroux, and Élise Desaulniers <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Collaborated with a team of moral philosophers in a SSHRC-sponsored project: "Animal Welfare Organisations: Responding to Ethical Challenges"</li><li>▪ Collected information and testimonies from the Montreal SPCA staff regarding their ethical dilemmas in daily operation</li><li>▪ Drafted ethical guidelines and policy recommendations for the Montreal SPCA</li></ul>
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- 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

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- 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

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- 2023            **Symposium Co-Organizer**, The Varieties and Values of Agency, May 2023, Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting
- 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)

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### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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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

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### SELECTED INTERVIEWS

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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](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)

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### LANGUAGES

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

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