

Paul Schofield

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Employment

- Bates College, Associate Professor (2022-present)
- Bates College, Assistant Professor (2019-2022)
- Bates College, Visiting Assistant Professor (2016-2019)
- Bates College, Lecturer (2015-2016)
- Bates College, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow (2013-2015)

Education

- PhD, Harvard University, Philosophy (2013)
Dissertation: *The Commonwealth as Agent: Group Action, the Common Good, and the General Will*
Committee: Christine Korsgaard, T.M. Scanlon, Richard Moran
- MA, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Philosophy (2005)
- BA, University of Notre Dame, Liberal Studies (2002)

Areas of Specialization

- Ethics, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Film

Areas of Competence

- Aesthetics, Early Modern, 19th Century

Publications

Books

(2) *Exiled in Their Own Land* (a book about homelessness)
Oxford University Press (under contract)

(1) *Duty to Self: Moral, Political, and Legal Self-Relation*
Oxford University Press (2021)

Reviewed in: *Ethics* (Daniel Muñoz)
Criminal Law and Philosophy (Daniel Groll)
Dialectica (Agnès Bachni)

- (11) “Knowing, Acknowledging, and Loving: Cavellian Themes in the Films of Wong Kar-wai”
to appear in *Stanley Cavell and World Cinema: Beyond Hollywood*
Edinburgh University Press (forthcoming)
*invited Submission
- (10) “Demand Sharing and the Evolution of Morality” with Mike Dacey
The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science (forthcoming)
- (9) “On the *Owning To* in Owing Duties to Self”
The Monist 108, no. 1 (2025) (pp. 1-12)
- (8) “Can Duties to the Self Bind If They Are Waivable?”
Australasian Journal of Philosophy 99, no. 1 (2021), pp. 190-195
- (7) “*Funny Games*: Film, Imagination, and Moral Complicity”
in *Metacinema: Representations of Filmic Self-Reference*
Oxford University Press (2021), pp. 219-232
*invited submission
- (6) “Morality and Recognition: Cavellian Themes in Elaine May’s *A New Leaf*”
in *Movies with Stanley Cavell in Mind*
Bloomsbury Publishing (2021), pp. 131-147
*invited submission
- (5) “Practical Identity and Duties to the Self”
American Philosophical Quarterly 56, no. 3 (July 2019), pp. 219-232
- (4) “Following the Law Because It’s the Law”
Philosophical Explorations 21, no. 3 (2018), pp. 400-411
- (3) “Action and Agency in *The Red Shoes*”
Film-Philosophy 22, no. 3 (October 2018), pp. 484-500
- (2) “Paternalism and Right”
The Journal of Political Philosophy 26, no. 1 (March 2018), pp. 65-83

- (1) “On the Existence of Duties to the Self”

Philosophy and Phenomenological Research 90, no. 3 (May 2015), pp. 505-528

Reviews (all invited)

- (5) “Review of Stanley Fish’s *Law at the Movies: Turning Legal Doctrine into Art*”

Society 62, no. 2 (April 2025), pp. 286-289

- (4) “Review of Philip Pettit’s *The Birth of Ethics*”

Journal of Moral Philosophy 17, no. 6 (December 2020), pp. 707-710

- (3) “Review of Husain Sarkar’s *Kant and Parfit: The Groundwork of Morals*”

Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews (April 2019)

<https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/kant-and-parfit-the-groundwork-of-morals/>

- (2) “Review of Kieran Setiya’s *Knowing Right From Wrong*”

Journal of Moral Philosophy 13, no. 3 (May 2016), pp. 385-388

- (1) “Review of Stephen Darwall’s *Essays in Second-Personal Ethics—Vols. 1-2*”

Philosophy in Review 34, no. 6 (December 2014), pp. 296-299

Writing for a Public Audience

- “The Homelessness Crisis Is a Crisis of Democracy” *Jacobin* (July ’25)
<https://jacobin.com/2025/07/homelessness-crisis-democracy-olympia-dehumanization>
- “How Neoliberalism Has Distorted Human Choice,” *Jacobin* (May ’25)
<https://jacobin.com/2025/04/neoliberalism-choice-individualism-market-freedom/>
- “An Autonomy Worth Having,” *Jacobin* (Mar ’25) <https://jacobin.com/2025/03/autonomy-homelessness-mental-illness-choice>
- “The Case for a Liberal Socialism,” *Jacobin* (Feb ’25) <https://jacobin.com/2025/02/liberal-socialism-mcmanus-review-mill>

- “Being Homeless Means Not Being Free—Like Americans Are Supposed to Be,” *The Conversation* (Nov ’23) <https://theconversation.com/being-homeless-means-not-being-free-as-americans-are-supposed-to-be-214627>
- “Liberals Shouldn’t Scoff at People’s Fears Over Homelessness and Crime,” *The Washington Post* (Nov ’23) <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2023/11/16/liberals-cities-crime-homelessness-republicans/>
- “Affordable Housing is a Higher Ed Issue,” *Inside Higher Ed* (Nov ’23) <https://www.insidehighered.com/opinion/views/2023/11/01/affordable-housing-higher-ed-issue-opinion>
- Article on Homelessness and Sex, *Slate* (Aug ’23) <https://slate.com/human-interest/2023/08/homelessness-homeless-shelter-sex.html>
- American Philosophical Association Blog, “The Necessity of Guaranteed Housing.” <https://blog.apaonline.org/2022/04/18/the-necessity-of-guaranteed-housing/> (Apr ’22)
- “Should There Be a Limit to How Much Debt a Young Person Takes On?” *The Conversation* <https://theconversation.com/should-there-be-a-limit-on-how-much-debt-a-young-person-takes-on-157848> (Apr ’21)
 - Adapted for high school students in the Actively Learn program <https://reader.activelylearn.com/authoring/preview/3539297/notes>
- Best Movies of the Decade *Aesthetics for Birds* <https://aestheticsforbirds.com/2019/12/03/9-movie-experts-on-their-top-5-films-of-the-decade/#schofield> (Dec ’19)

Conference and Colloquium Presentations

(peer-reviewed unless otherwise indicated)

- “Homelessness as a Crisis of Democracy: A Philosophical and Photographic Exploration” with JM Simpson
Amherst College (Mar ’26) *invited
- Comments on Paul Hurley’s *Against the Tyranny of Consequences*
The Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society conference (Nov ’25) *invited

- Comments on Matthew McManus's *Liberal Socialism*
American Political Science Association conference, Vancouver (Sept '25) *invited
- Comments on Richard Pettigrew's Locke Lectures
Locke Lecture Workshop, Northeastern University (Apr '25) *invited
- "Homelessness, Exclusion, and Exile"
Phillips Lecture at Bates College, (Nov '24) *given by winner of the Phillips Fellowship
- "On the Fundamental Importance of Housing"
Normative Philosophy Workshop, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (May '24) *invited
APA Pacific Division, Portland (Oregon) *invited (Mar. 24)
- Comments on N. Whitaker's "Permission: Impossible."
APA Pacific Division, Portland (Oregon) *invited (Mar. 24)
- "Demand Sharing and the Evolution of Morality" w/Mike Dacey
Colloquium, Cornell University (Mar '24) *invited
- "Now You Cannot Go on As Before: Korsgaard on Summoning the Other"
Conference in Honor of Christine Korsgaard, Harvard University (May '23) *invited
- "Recognition and Homelessness"
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Mar '23) *invited
- "Present Self, Future Selves"
Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Louisville (Mar '23) *invited
- "Reasoning Second-Personally"
Oxford Moral Philosophy Colloquium Series, Oxford University (Feb '23) *invited
- "Recognition and Homelessness"
Colloquium Talk, University of New Hampshire (Nov '22) *invited
- "Knowing, Acknowledging, and Loving: Cavellian Themes in the Films of Wong Kar-wai"
Northern New England Philosophical Association, U. of New Hampshire (Oct '22)
- "Seeking a Foundation for Morality in Second-Personal Address"
NUSTEP Ethics and Political Philosophy Conference, Northwestern University (Jun '22)

- “On the Necessity of Guaranteed Housing”
APA Eastern Division, Baltimore, Main Program, Symposium (Jan ’22)
- “On the *Owing to* in Owing Duties to Oneself”
Conference on Duties to Oneself, Central European University, Vienna (Oct ’21)
- “Comments on I. Mitsou’s “The Notion of Revolt in Contemporary Horror Narratives”
SPSCVA Conference, Online, (Jul ’21) *invited
- “Seeking a Foundation for Morality in Second-Personal Address”
APA Pacific Division, Online, Main Program, Colloquium (Apr ’21)
- “Accountability to Another: What is a Second-Personal Reason?”
Workshop on Moral Responsibility, organized by the Gothenburg Responsibility Project
(online) (Mar ’21) *invited
- “On the Perils and Possibilities of Citizenship in Tarantino’s *The Hateful Eight*”
APA Eastern Division, SPSCVA Session (Jan ’21)
- “Self-Resentment?: Moral Self-Relation Beyond Duties to the Self”
Workshop on Duties to the Self, organized by Monash University (online) (July ’20) *invited
- “Seeking a Foundation for Morality in Second-Personal Address”
Northern New England Philosophical Association, College of the Holy Cross (Nov ’19)
- “Film, Imagination, and Moral Complicity in *Funny Games*”
APA Pacific Division, Vancouver, SPSCVA Session (Apr ’19)
- “Morality and Recognition: Cavellian Themes in Elaine May’s *A New Leaf*”
APA Eastern Division, New York City, SPSCVA Session (Jan ’19)
- “Wellbeing, Perfectionism, and the Testimony of Disabled Persons”
Northern New England Philosophical Association, University of Vermont (Oct ’18)
- “Separateness of Persons and the Perspective of Citizen”
Bechtel Workshop, Northwestern University (Sept. ’18) *invited

- “Wellbeing, Perfectionism, and the Testimony of Disabled Persons”
Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado (Aug ’18)
- “Do Pleasure and Pain Doom the Perfectionist Theory of Wellbeing?”
Clemson University Philosophy Department Colloquium (Apr ’18) *invited
- Comments on Rafeeq Hasan’s “What’s Wrong With Gentrification?”
NUSTEP Ethics and Political Philosophy Conference, Northwestern University (April ’18)
- “Kantian Constructivism and Bootstrapping”
APA Eastern Division, Savannah, SPSCVA Session (Jan ’18), cancelled (weather) *invited
- “Action and Agency in *The Red Shoes*”
APA Eastern Division, Savannah, North American Kant Assoc. (Jan ’18), cancelled (weather)
- “The Second-Person Standpoint and the Separateness of Persons”
Northern New England Philosophical Association Conference, Stonehill College (Nov ’17)
****selected for plenary session, comments from Stephen Darwall*
- “Perfectionism, Success, and Wellbeing”
The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado (poster session) (Aug ’17)
- Comments on Matthew Noah Smith’s “The Resistance Theory of Legitimate Authority”
The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado (Aug ’17)
- “Practical Identity and Duties to the Self”
APA Pacific Division, Seattle, Main Program, Colloquium (Apr ’17)
- Comments on David Sussman’s “Love, Reason, and the Highest Good”
NUSTEP Ethics and Political Philosophy Conference, Northwestern University (April ’17)
- “Pleasure, Pain, and Perfectionism”
Northern New England Philosophical Association, Keene State University (Oct ’16)

Visits to Classes at Other Schools

- Bowdoin College, Undergraduate Seminar on Duties to Self (Dec ’24)
- University of New Hampshire, Undergraduate Course on the Self (Oct ’24)
- University of North Carolina, Graduate Seminar on Duties to Self (Apr ’23)

Community Engagement and Public Philosophy

- Presentation about Homelessness, New Hampshire Active Retirement Association (Apr '26)
- Presentation about Homelessness with photographer JM Simpson, Bates College (Mar '26)
- Presentation for Bates Students “Homelessness, Exclusion, and Exile” (Oct '24)
- Lewiston Community Discussion about Homelessness (May '24)
<https://www.sunjournal.com/2024/05/07/to-cope-with-homeless-issue-bates-professor-says-to-start-by-showing-grace/>
- Guest on *Maine Calling* to Discuss the Social Contract (Apr '24)
- Commentary on New Work in Philosophy by Jack Samuel (Jan '24)
<https://newworkinphilosophy.substack.com/p/paul-schofield-bates-college-on-recent>
- Guest on *The Young Turks* to discuss homelessness (Nov '23)
- Panel on Housing Justice, Bates College, (Nov. '21)
- Radio interviews on Debt Regulation: *The Brian Standing Show*; *The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen*; *Let's Go There with Shira Lazar and Ryan Mitchell* (Apr '21)
- Discuss Justice and Democracy with Girl Scouts of Maine (Jan '20)
- Conducted Q&A for Short Films at Bates Film Festival (Mar '18)
- Bates Investigating Ideas Panel, “Psychology of Liberal-Conservative Ideology” (Feb '18)
- Bates Film Festival Advisory Board ('18)
- Guest on Maine Public Radio’s *Maine Calling* to discuss “Happiness” (Oct '17)
- Judge/Screener for the Emerge Film Festival—Lewiston, Maine (2016)
- Interviewed Director David Spaltro for the Emerge Film Festival—Lewiston, Maine (2016)
- Parents Weekend Speaker, Bates College (2014)

Chaired Conference Sessions

- Session on Practical Identity, Transformative Experience Conference, Seattle (Apr '17)

Honors and Awards

- American Philosophical Association Prize for Op-Ed Writing ('23-'24)
 - Awarded for “Being Homeless Means Not Being Free” in *The Conversation*
- Phillips Fellowship (Fully-Funded Year-Long Research Leave) '23-24
- Carrier Prize (Best Dissertation on a Moral or Political Topic at Harvard University) '13
- Whiting Fellowship in the Humanities, '12 (declined)
- Certificate of Distinction for Teaching, Harvard University (Awarded 3 times)
 - Marx and Marxism (TA) '13
 - Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau (Taught Alone) '11
 - Moral Reasoning about Social Protest (TA) '08
- Peltz Award (Most Outstanding Paper in Philosophy, UW-Milwaukee) '04

Fellowships and Grants

- Faculty Development Grant, Bates College (Jan '24)
- Phillips Faculty Fellowship, Bates College (2023-23)
- Purposeful Work Infusion Grant, Bates College (Oct '20)
- Purposeful Work Infusion Grant, Bates College (Mar '20)
- Learning Associates Grant, Bates College (Apr '19)
- Faculty Development Grant, Bates College (Sept '18)
- Learning Associates Grant, Bates College (Sept '18)
- Learning Associates Grant, Bates College (Apr '18)
- Faculty Development Grant, Bates College (Dec '17)
- Learning Associates Grant, Bates College (Apr '17)
- Mellon Foundation: Program, Department, Office, or GEC Grant, Bates College (2016)
- Safra Center for Ethics Graduate Fellowship, Harvard University (2009-10)
- Harvard Philosophy Departmental Grant, Language Study (Summer 2007)
- Harvard University Presidential Scholarship (2005-2013)
- UW-Milwaukee Chancellor's Fellowship (2003-05)

Courses Taught

Bates College

- Seminar: Aristotelian Ethics
- The Late Wittgenstein
- Seminar: Kantian Ethics
- Movies, Games, and Food: The Philosophy of Art (Seminar for First Year Students)
- Homelessness
- Power, Persons, and Freedom: Philosophy in the 19th Century
- Seminar: I and Thou—Recognition and Second-Personal Morality
- Seminar on Environmental Justice
- Seminar on the Rise of Analysis in the 20th Century (History of Early Analytic)
- Film as Philosophy
- Seminar on the Metaphysics of Action
- Human Nature, Morality & Politics
- Environmental Ethics
- Environmental Ethics (Seminar for First Year Students)
- Wellbeing and the Good Life (Seminar for First Year Students)
- Philosophy in the Modern Era (1600-1800)
- Teaching Philosophy
- Capitalism and Its Critics
- Contemporary Moral Disputes

Harvard University

- Marx and Marxism (TA for Tommie Shelby)
- Introduction to Political Theory (TA for Eric Beerbohm)
- Justice (TA and Administrator for Michael Sandel)
- Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau (taught alone)
- History of Modern Moral Philosophy (TA for Christine Korsgaard)
- Race and Social Justice (TA for Tommie Shelby)
- Moral Reasoning about Social Protest (TA for Susanna Siegel)

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

- Introduction to Philosophy (TA for John Koethe)
- Introduction to Formal Logic (TA for Michael Liston)

Articles Refereed

Journal of Philosophy, Ethics, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Philosophical Studies, Philosophical Quarterly, Analysis, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Mind & Language, Journal of the American Philosophical Association, Journal of Moral Philosophy, Erkenntnis, British Journal of Aesthetics, Res Publica, Ethical Theory and Moral Practice, Journal of Social Philosophy, European Journal of Philosophy, Journal of Value Inquiry, Social Theory and Practice

Books Refereed

Oxford, Routledge, Bloomsbury

Committee Work

- Personnel Committee (2024-present)
- Student Affairs Committee (2022-23; 2024-present)
- Student Conduct Board Pool (2020-21)
- Department of Politics, Tenure-Track Search Committee (2020)
- Committee on Admission and Financial Aid, Bates College (2019-2020)
- Otis Lecture and Fellowship Committee, Bates College (2019-2020; 2021-present)
- Judicial Educators, Bates College (2021-2022)

References

- Christine Korsgaard (christine_korsgaard@fas.harvard.edu)
- Richard Moran (moran@fas.harvard.edu)
- David Cummiskey (dcummisk@bates.edu)
- Julia Driver (julia.driver@austin.utexas.edu)
- Kyla Ebels-Duggan (kebelsduggan@northwestern.edu)