

Emma J. Curran

emma.curran@philosophy.ox.ac.uk | emmajcurran.co.uk

AOS: Normative Ethics, Practical Ethics, Metaphysics
AOC: Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Economics

Positions

- 2024 – **Departmental Lecturer in Ethics**
Faculty of Philosophy and Hertford College
University of Oxford
- 2023 – 2024 **Postdoctoral Associate**
Center for Population-Level Bioethics
Rutgers University – New Brunswick
- 2020 – 2021 **Research Assistant**
Department of History and Philosophy of Science
University of Cambridge

Education

- 2019 – 2023 **PhD Philosophy**
Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge
Title: *Doing Less Than Best*
Supervisors: Arif Ahmed, Stephen John
Examiners: Theron Pummer, Richard Holton
Pass without corrections
- 2018 – 2019 **MPhil Philosophy**
Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge
Grade: Pass with Distinction
Awarded prize for joint best performance (see *Awards*)
- 2015 – 2018 **BSc Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method**
London School of Economics and Political Science
Grade: First-Class Honours
Awarded prize for best performance (see *Awards*)

Articles

- 2023 **Impairing the Impairment Argument**, with Kyle van Oosterum
Journal of Medical Ethics
- 2022 **Must We Vaccinate the Most Vulnerable? Efficiency, priority, and equality in vaccine distribution**, with Stephen John
Journal of Applied Philosophy
- 2021 **Costa, cancer and coronavirus: contractualism as a guide to the ethics of lockdown**, with Stephen John
Journal of Medical Ethics

Chapters

Forthcoming **Longtermism and the Complaints of Future People**
Jacob Barrett, Hilary Greaves, and David Thorstad (eds.), *Essays on Longtermism*, Oxford University Press

Reports

2024 **A Simple Tool for Disincentivising the Worst Pandemic Bioweapons**,
with Nir Eyal
Nathan A. Paxton and Jaime M. Yassif (eds.), *Disincentivising Bioweapons: Theory and Policy Approaches*, Nuclear Threat Initiative

Public work

2024 **Should ‘last hope’ drugs get priority approval?**
CPLB Dilemmas

2022 **Why should we protect the vulnerable?**
Justice Everywhere

2021 **Coffee or COVID?**
JME Blog

Awards

2020 **Early Career Conference Programme**
Selected by the Global Priorities Institute

2020 – 2022 **Global Priorities Fellowship**
Elected by the Forethought Foundation and granted £10,000

2019 **Bateman Scholarship**
Elected by Trinity Hall for distinction in MPhil results

2019 **Matthew Buncombe Prize**
Awarded for the joint best performance in the MPhil Philosophy at the University of Cambridge

2018 **John Worrall Prize**
Awarded for the best performance in the BSc Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method at the LSE

Studentships

2019 – 2022 **Open-Oxford-Cambridge AHRC DTP – Trinity Hall Studentship**
Full fees and living expenses for the PhD

2019 – 2022 **London AHRC DTP Studentship** (*declined*)
Full fees and living expenses for the PhD

2018 – 2019 **Cambridge AHRC DTP Studentship**
Full fees and living expenses for the MPhil

2018 – 2019 **Trinity Hall – Newton Trust Masters Award** (*declined*)
Award of £12,000 towards the MPhil

Talks

†: Peer review ‡: Invite

Leaving the Present Behind (Previously *Fairness and the Future*)

2023 Global Priorities Institute, University of Oxford: 13th Oxford Workshop on Global Priorities Research ‡

2023 St Andrews University: Energy Ethics Conference ‡

Individuals and the Chances We Give Them

2022 Institute of Biomedical Ethics: 16th World Congress on Bioethics, 'The Value and Fairness of Chances in Public Health' Panel Debate †

Catastrophic Risk and the Complaints of Future People

2022 Global Priorities Institute, University of Oxford: Workshop on Longtermism and Non-Consequentialist Moral Philosophy ‡

2022 University of Cambridge: Moral Sciences Club ‡

2022 PPE Society Annual Meeting: 'Population Health and the Future: ethics, prioritization, and practice' Panel †

2021 Global Priorities Institute, University of Oxford: ECCP Conference †

Vaccine Distribution: Save the Great Number or the Most Vulnerable?

with Stephen John

2021 Rutgers Center for Population-Level Bioethics: Work-in-Progress Seminar ‡

Longtermism, Aggregation, and Catastrophic Risk

2021 University of Sheffield: Understanding Value X †

2021 University of Minho: Braga Meetings on Ethics and Political Philosophy †

2021 University of Cambridge: Philosophy Graduate Seminar

2021 Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge: The McMenemy Seminar ‡

2021 Global Priorities Institute, University of Oxford: 6th Oxford Workshop on Global Priorities Research ‡

Doing Less Than Best

2021 Siena Heights University: Great Lakes Philosophy Conference, 'Ethics in Action' Session †

2021 Forethought Foundation: Global Priorities Seminar

2020 University of Cambridge: Philosophy Graduate Seminar

2020 University of Cambridge: Political Philosophy Workshop ‡

Animals and Their Corpses

2019 University of Cambridge: Philosophy Graduate Seminar

Killing, Self-Defence, and Nonresponsible Threats

2019 Nuffield College, University of Oxford: Oxford Graduate Conference in Political Theory †

2019 Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge: The Cambridge Legal Theory Discussion Group ‡

Teaching Graduate

2024 - **University of Oxford**
BPhil Seminar Convener
Risky Ethics

BPhil Thesis Supervisor
For normative and practical ethics

Undergrad

2024 –

University of Oxford

Lecturer

Practical Ethics (Finals)

Tutor

Moral Philosophy (Prelim)

Practical Ethics (Finals)

Ethics (Finals)

2019 – 2023

University of Cambridge

Lecturer

Ethics (second-year, lectures on ‘Normative Powers’)

Supervisor

Metaphysics (first year)

Ethics & Political Philosophy (first year)

Ethics (second year)

Political Philosophy (second year)

History and Philosophy of Economics (second year)

Ethics (third year)

Philosophy of Science (third year)

Class Teacher

Formal Methods (first-year, formerly ‘Logic’)

Seminar Leader

Metaphysics (first year)

Ethics & Political Philosophy (first year)

Ethics (second year)

Supervised Undergraduate Dissertations and Extended Essays on:

Supererogation; democracy and minority protection; autonomy and belief formation; promissory obligations; distributive ethics and healthcare; existential risk and ‘global attention deterioration’; AI catastrophic risk; partial-aggregation.

Services

Faculty of Philosophy, University of Oxford

2024

BPhil Essay Marker

2024

Assessor for Finals Examinations

Hertford College, University of Oxford

2024

Admissions Interviewer for Philosophy

Center for Population-Level Bioethics, Rutgers University

2024

Member of Postdoctoral Associate Hiring Committee

Event Organisation

2021 Co-organiser of ‘*Rethinking the Ethics of Vaccination*’ workshop series

Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge

2022 Lecturer for HE+ Somerset Residential
2020 – 2021 Academic Officer of the Middle Combination Room
2020 Convenor of the Humanities Discussion Group
2019 – 2020 Vice-President of the Middle Combination Room
2019 – 2020 Co-coordinator of the McMenemy Seminar

Faculty of Philosophy, University of Cambridge

2022 – 2023 Co-convenor of the Philosophy of Bodies Group
2020 – 2021 Co-convenor of Let’s Get Practical: Practical Ethics Group
2020 – 2021 Co-convenor of the Serious Decision Sciences Group
2020 – 2021 Secretary of the Moral Sciences Club
2020 – 2022 Interviewer for Undergraduate Admissions
Jesus, Sidney Sussex
2019 – 2020 Chair of the Graduate Seminar

Journal Refereeing

Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Ethics (x2), Journal of Philosophy, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies (x4), Utilitas, Erkenntnis, Philosophy Compass (x2), Journal of Medical Ethics (x2), Ethical Theory and Moral Practice (x2), Theoria, Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal (x3), and Medicine, Healthcare and Philosophy, American Philosophical Quarterly.

References upon request