

J. Joseph Porter

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Research Interests

Areas of specialization: political philosophy, PPE (philosophy, politics, and economics)
Areas of competence: ethics (especially animal ethics and bioethics), ancient philosophy, history of philosophy, philosophy of religion

Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Ph.D., Philosophy

Dissertation: "Equal Political Liberty and the Problem of Fundamental Security"

M.A., Philosophy

Thesis: "The Inclusivist Anomaly Is Not an Anomaly:
A Reply to Buchanan and Powell"

Chapel Hill, NC
Expected May 2022

May 2018

Harvard University

M.T.S., New Testament and Early Christianity

A.B., Philosophy (High Honors) with a Minor in the Comparative Study of Religion, *magna cum laude*

Thesis: "Free Will and Experience"

Cambridge, MA
May 2016
May 2012

Honors and Awards

- Adam Smith Fellowship (Mercatus Center) August 2021
- Don Lavoie Fellowship (Mercatus Center) January 2021
- Humane Studies Fellowship (Institute for Humane Studies) June 2020
- Hayek Fund for Scholars (Institute for Humane Studies) March 2020
- Adam Smith Fellowship (Mercatus Center) September 2019
- Humane Studies Fellowship (Institute for Humane Studies) September 2019
- Adams Fellowship (UNC-Chapel Hill) September 2018
- Initiative for Minority Excellence Scholarship (UNC-Chapel Hill) March 2016
- Prize for Work in Moral and Political Philosophy (awarded for my undergraduate thesis by Harvard University) July 2012
- Phi Beta Kappa (Harvard University) May 2012

Selected Presentations

- “Existential Risk and Equal Political Liberty”
(PPE Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA) October 2021
 - “Health and the Ethics of Eating Meat”
(SCSP Annual Meeting) April 2021
 - “Meat Me Halfway? Ethics and the Health of Animal-based Diets”
(PPE Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA) March 2020
 - “Explaining Normative Drift”
(PPE Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA) March 2019
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Teaching

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Chapel Hill, NC

Instructor of Record

- PHIL 165. Bioethics Summer 2021
- GRAD 721. Research Ethics Spring 2020
- PHIL 384. Gateway to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Fall 2019
- PHIL 110. Introduction to Philosophy Through Great Works Summer 2019
- PHIL 165. Bioethics Spring 2019
- PHIL 155. Introduction to Mathematical Logic Summer 2018

Teaching Assistant

- PHIL 163H. Practical Ethics (departmental representative for the Robertson Fellowship’s honors colloquium) Spring 2020
- PHIL 155. Introduction to Mathematical Logic Fall 2018
- PHIL 105. Critical Thinking Spring 2018
- PHIL 160. Introduction to Ethics Fall 2017

University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia, PA

Teaching Assistant

- PPE 101. Ethics and Economics of Wealth Creation Summer 2020
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Service to the University

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Chapel Hill, NC

- Affiliated graduate student, PPE Program Fall 2019-present
- Organizer and co-host, PPE Salon: “Bitcoin: What Does the Future Hold?” March 2021
- Organizer and co-host, PPE Salon: “What Can We Learn from ‘GameStopGate’?” February 2021
- Organizer and host, “Beyond Policy: Human Perspectives on the Opioid Crisis” (a PPE Program/Carolina Public Humanities collaborative workshop) February 2020
- Member, PPE Hiring Committee Fall 2019
- Leader, PPE Reading Group: *Love Your Enemies* Fall 2019
- Judge, National High School Ethics Bowl April 2019

Service to the Profession

- Co-organizer and referee, PPE Society Annual Meeting October 2021
 - Co-organizer and referee, PPE Society Annual Meeting March 2020
 - Chair, “Corrective Justice, Distributive Justice, and Compensation,” PPE Society Annual Meeting March 2019
 - Chair, “Proxies and Politics: Making Social Choices in the Age of Big Data,” PPE Society Annual Meeting March 2019
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Graduate Coursework

- Metaphysics, Thomas Hofweber (Fall 2016)
 - Research Seminar in Moral Theory, Douglas MacLean and Susan Wolf (Fall 2016)
 - Philosophy of Mind, Carla Merino-Rajme (Fall 2016)
 - Symbolic Logic, Thomas Hofweber (Fall 2016)
 - Advanced Studies in Philosophy of Logic, Gillian Russell (Spring 2017)
 - Aristotle, Mariska Leunissen and CDC Reeve (Spring 2017)
 - Proto-Seminar in Philosophy, Alan Nelson and John Roberts (Spring 2017)
 - The Beginnings of Analytic Philosophy, Gillian Russell (Spring 2017)
 - Plato, CDC Reeve (Fall 2017)
 - Rationalism, Alan Nelson (Fall 2017)
 - Research Seminar in Political Philosophy, Gerald Postema (Fall 2017)
 - Advanced Studies in Value Theory, Mariska Leunissen and Rebecca Walker (Spring 2018)
 - Metaphysics, Peter van Inwagen (Duke University; Spring 2018)
 - Advanced Studies in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, Luc Bovens (Fall 2018)
 - Empiricism, Alan Nelson (Fall 2018)
 - Research Seminar in Value Theory, Simon Blackburn and Sarah Stroud (Spring 2019)
 - Modern Political Philosophy, Gerald Postema (Spring 2019)
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Skills

Languages

- Intermediate proficiency: Portuguese, Spanish, Koine Greek, Classical Hebrew
- Basic proficiency: German, Italian, Latin

Other

- Public speaking
- Copy editing
- Creative writing (poetry, lyric essay, epistolary, etc.)