

Curriculum Vitae

Aidan B. Penn

University of Fribourg
Department of Philosophy
Av. de l'Europe 20
1700 Fribourg, Switzerland

aidanpenn.com
aidanbpenn@gmail.com
+1 (646) 957 5743 (US)
+41 76 685 23 33 (CH)

A.O.S.: ethics, epistemology (formal and informal), decision theory, AI ethics, political philosophy, PPE (philosophy, politics, and economics).

A.O.C.: applied ethics (including bioethics and medical ethics), metaethics, metaphysics, philosophy of science, philosophy of language, logic (introductory, advanced, modal).

EMPLOYMENT

University of Fribourg
Postdoctoral Researcher in Philosophy

September 2025–present

EDUCATION

New York University

2019–2025

PhD in Philosophy

Dissertation: *Topics in the Ethics of Risk: Prerogatives, Incompleteness, and Higher-Order Uncertainty*

Committee: Samuel Scheffler (chair), Cian Dorr, and Daniel Viehoff

University of Oxford, Balliol College

2017–2019

BPhil in Philosophy (with distinction)

Thesis: *Deontological Population Ethics*

Supervisors: Ralf Bader and Roger Crisp

Bowdoin College

2013–2017

BA in Philosophy (*summa cum laude*, minor in Government & Legal Studies)

Thesis: *From Equality to Democracy*

Advisor: Kristi Olson

RESEARCH

“Opaque Options” (with Kacper Kowalczyk)

Philosophical Studies 181 (2024): 1837–1849. DOI: 10.1007/s11098-024-02134-6

“Ethics without Epistemic Internalism”

Under review (R&R at *The Philosophical Review*)

“Prerogatives under Risk”

Under review (R&R at *Free & Equal*)

PRESENTATIONS

“Ethics without Epistemic Internalism”

Formal Philosophy Group. Princeton University.	February 2025
Graduate Work in Progress Group. New York University.	November 2024
Ethics and Political Philosophy Colloquium. University of Fribourg.	February 2024

“Incomparability and Social Risk”

Decision Theory Workshop. University of Fribourg.	April 2024
---	------------

“Prerogatives under Risk”

The Joint Session of the Arist. Soc. and the Mind Assoc. (Grad Session).	July 2023
Yale Early Career Ethics Conference. Yale University.	April 2023
Varieties of Risk Conference. University of Stirling.	March 2023
MANCEPT. University of Manchester.	September 2022

“Anti-anti-future-bias”

Graduate Work in Progress Group. New York University.	November 2019
---	---------------

“Equality, Pareto, and freedom of occupational choice”

Warwick Graduate Conference. University of Warwick.	February 2018
---	---------------

“Reductive Individualism, Combined Justification, and Complicitious Liability”

MANCEPT. University of Manchester.	September 2017
------------------------------------	----------------

TEACHING

As primary instructor (at NYU):

Epistemology	Summer 2024
Metaethics	Summer 2022

As teaching assistant (at NYU):

Texts & Ideas: The Meaning of Life (primary instructor: Jessica Moss)	Spring 2023
Ethics (primary instructor: Sanford Diehl)	Fall 2022
Ethics & Society (primary instructor: Sophia Dandeleit)	Spring 2022
Political Philosophy (primary instructor: Daniel Viehoff)	Fall 2021

NYU Teaching Certificate, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences	Fall 2023
--	-----------

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Journal Referee

Philosophical Studies, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Philosophical Quarterly

New York University

Co-organized department lunch talks	2023–25
Co-organized graduate colloquia	2022–23
Co-organized decision theory reading group	2022
Co-organized climate committee	2021–23

Co-organized prospective student visit	2021
Co-organized department colloquia	2020–21

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS

MacCracken Fellowship, New York University	2019–2024
AI and Data Ethics Summer School, Northeastern University	2023
International Strategy Forum, Schmidt Futures	2022
Forethought Fellowship, Forethought Foundation	2021, 2022
Early Career Conference Program, Global Priorities Institute	2021
Clarendon Fellowship, University of Oxford (declined)	2019
Phillip W. Cummings Prize in Philosophy, Bowdoin College	2017
Alan M. Christenfeld Fellowship in the Humanities, Bowdoin College	2016
Phi Beta Kappa, Bowdoin College	2016

SELECTED GRADUATE COURSEWORK (* = audited)

Attachment and Detachment in Ethics (Samuel Scheffler and Sharon Street)	NYU
Truthmaker Semantics (Kit Fine)	NYU
Higher-Order Epistemology (Jim Pryor)	NYU
Philosophy of Action (David Velleman)	NYU
Metaethics (Sharon Street)	NYU
Compassion in the History of Ethics (Anja Jauernig)	NYU
Advanced Logic (Cian Dorr)	NYU
Discrimination* (Daniel Viehoff)	NYU
Ethics* (Samuel Scheffler)	NYU
Rawls and Race* (Samuel Scheffler)	NYU
Metaphysics* (Cian Dorr)	NYU
Probability and Decision* (Cian Dorr and Hartry Field)	NYU
Bayesian Epistemology* (Snow Zhang)	NYU
Heterodox Decision Theory* (Lara Buchak)	Princeton
Normative Ethics: <i>Weighing Goods</i> and <i>Weighing Lives</i> * (Jake Nebel)	Princeton
Problems of Risk in Law and Society* (Johann Frick, Lara Buchak, Renee Jorgensen)	Princeton
Advanced Seminar in Ethics* (Larry Temkin)	Rutgers
Rights* (Alex Guerrero, Francis Kamm)	Rutgers
Topics in Ethics (Hilary Greaves, Teru Thomas)	Oxford
Defensive Harm (Jeff McMahan)	Oxford
Population Ethics (Jeff McMahan)	Oxford
Population Ethics (Ralf Bader)	Oxford
F.H. Bradley's Ethics (Roger Crisp, Terence Irwin)	Oxford
Political Philosophy (Cécile Fabre, Thomas Sinclair)	Oxford
Causation (Simona Aimar, Alex Kaiserman)	Oxford
Topics in Metaphysics* (Timothy Williamson, Alex Kaiserman)	Oxford
Feminism and the Future* (Amia Srinivasan and Sophie Smith)	Oxford

REFERENCES

Samuel Scheffler
Professor of Philosophy
New York University
samuel.scheffler@nyu.edu

Daniel Viehoff
Associate Professor of Philosophy
University of California at Berkeley
dviehoff@berkeley.edu

Cian Dorr
Professor of Philosophy
New York University
cian.dorr@nyu.edu

Ralf Bader
Professor of Philosophy
University of Fribourg
ralf.bader@unifr.ch

Jessica Moss (teaching reference)
Professor of Philosophy
New York University
jessica.moss@nyu.edu