

# Boris Babic

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<https://borisbabic.com>

## Academic Appointments

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Postdoctoral Scholar and Instructor, California Institute of Technology 2017-2019

Visiting Fellow, Australian National University July 2018

## Education

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PhD in Philosophy, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor 2013-2017

*Dissertation Title:* Foundations of Epistemic Risk

*Committee:*

James Joyce (Chair), Peter Railton,

Brian Weatherson, Rich Gonzalez (Statistics/ Psychology)

MS in Statistics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor 2013-2017

Visitor, Carnegie Mellon University June 2014

JD, *cum laude*, Harvard Law School 2007-2010

BA (Honors), *summa cum laude*, York University 2003-2007

## Areas of Specialization and Competence

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AOS: Philosophy of Science (esp. Statistics), Epistemology, Law & Public Policy

AOC: Decision & Game Theory, Ethics, History of Analytic Philosophy

## Publications

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A Theory of Epistemic Risk, *Philosophy of Science* forthcoming

Moral Obligations & Epistemic Risk, *Oxford Studies in Normative Ethics* prov forthcoming  
(co-authored with Zoë Johnson-King)

## Work in Progress

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Dynamic Epistemic Risk

Assessment Reversal in Approximate Coherentism

Norms, Stereotypes, and Accuracy

Testing for Discrimination and the Risk of Error

Adaptive Burdens of Proof

Invariance, Entropy, and (Objective) Bayesianism

## **Presentations**

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“Moral Obligations and Epistemic Risk”

Arizona Workshop in Normative Ethics (January 2019)

“A Challenge for Approximate Coherentism”

University of Colorado, Boulder, 34th Conf. on Chance and Probability (October 2018)

“Testing for Discrimination and the Risk of Error”

The Australian National University (July 2018)

“Dynamic Epistemic Risk”

University of California, Irvine (February 2018)

California Institute of Technology (January 2018)

“Generalized Entropy and Epistemic Risk”

University of Michigan, Philosophy of Science Colloquium (February 2018)

London School of Economics, Philosophy of Probability Conference (June 2017)

University of Chicago, Graduate Conference (April 2016)

“Frequency Encoding Credences”

London School of Economics, Decisions, Games and Logic Workshop (June 2015)

Comment on Elisabeth Camp, “Whence and Wherefore Semantics”

University of Michigan, Spring Colloquium (March 2015)

“Degrees of Belief, Moral Judgment, and Legal Responsibility”

Harvard Legal Philosophy Colloquium (November 2014)

## **Fellowships & Awards**

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NSF Travel Grant (\$200)

*October 2018*

*National Science Foundation*

Doctoral Fellowship (\$60,000)

*2015-2018*

*Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada*

Rackham Dissertation Fellowship (\$10,200) <i>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor</i>	2017
Rackham Research Grant (\$3,000) <i>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor</i>	2017
Conference Travel Grant (\$1,000 x 3) <i>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor</i>	2017, 2016, 2014
Weinberg Summer Fellowship (\$4,000) <i>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor</i>	Summer 2015
Phi Kappa Phi honor society <i>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor</i>	April 2015
Mellon Recruitment Fellowship (\$4,000) <i>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor</i>	April 2013
Rhodes Scholarship Finalist <i>for Province of Ontario</i>	December 2009
Public Interest Law Fellowship (\$5,000) <i>Harvard Law School</i>	2008
Prize for best undergraduate essay in philosophy (x 2) <i>York University</i>	2006, 2007
Queen Elizabeth II Merit Scholarship (\$14,000) <i>Province of Ontario</i>	2003-2007

### Teaching (as primary instructor)

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Statistics, Ethics and Law <i>Caltech</i>	Spring 2018
Probability, Evidence and Belief <i>Caltech</i>	Spring 2018
Knowledge and Reality <i>Caltech</i>	Fall 2017
Nature of Science <i>University of Michigan</i>	Fall 2016
Knowledge and Reality <i>University of Michigan</i>	Summer 2016

### Teaching (as TA)

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Philosophy, Politics & Economics <i>University of Michigan</i>	Fall 2015
Philosophy, Politics & Economics <i>University of Michigan</i>	Winter 2015
Intermediate Logic <i>University of Michigan</i>	Fall 2014

## Legal Experience

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Stikeman Elliott, LLP <i>Litigation Attorney</i>	Toronto 2012–2013
Quinn, Emanuel, Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP <i>Litigation Attorney</i>	Los Angeles 2010–2012
Kirkland & Ellis, LLP <i>Summer Associate (offer extended)</i>	New York Summer 2009
Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology & Bioethics <i>Research Assistant for I. Glenn Cohen, Harvard Law School</i>	Cambridge, MA 2009–2010
UNIDROIT <i>Research Associate for International Commercial Contracts Group</i>	Rome, IT Summer 2008

## Professional Service

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Reviewer for the following publications:

*Philosophy of Science* (×2), *Synthese*, *PPQ*, *APQ*

10th Workshop in Decisions, Games and Logic <i>Organizer (Co-), \$10,000 from various funding sources</i>	June 2019
Philosopher's Annual <i>Editor (Volumes 35 and 36)</i>	2017, 2016
Foundations of Belief and Decision Making Workshop <i>Coordinator (and Co-founder), \$11,000 in grant funding</i>	2015-2017
9th Workshop in Decisions, Games and Logic <i>Organizer (Co-), \$4,000 from various funding sources</i>	July 2015
Graduate Student Faculty Representative <i>University of Michigan Department of Philosophy</i>	2015-2016
University of Michigan, Department of Philosophy Spring Colloquium <i>Organizer (Co-), \$8,000 grant funding</i>	Spring 2015
Graduate Student Representative to Rackham Forum <i>University of Michigan Department of Philosophy</i>	2014-2015
Law & Philosophy Working Group <i>Coordinator (Co-), \$12,000 grant funding</i>	2013-2015
Harvard Journal of Law and Technology <i>Editor</i>	2007-2009

## Computer Skills

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R, Python, SAS, JAGS, Stan

## Memberships & Affiliations

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State Bar of California, Provincial Bar of Ontario

## References

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### Research.....

#### James Joyce

C. H. Langford Collegiate  
Professor of Philosophy,  
University of Michigan,  
Ann Arbor  
office. 734. 763. 2120  
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#### Christopher Hitchcock

J. O. and Juliette Koepfli  
Professor of Philosophy,  
California Institute of  
Technology  
office. 626. 395. 3602  
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#### Simon Huttegger

Professor,  
Logic and Philosophy  
of Science,  
University of California, Irvine  
office. 949. 824. 3220  
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#### Peter Railton

Gregory S. Kavka  
Distinguished University  
Professor,  
University of Michigan,  
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#### Brian Weatherson

Marshall M. Weinberg  
Professor of Philosophy,  
University of Michigan,  
Ann Arbor  
office. 734.764.6285  
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#### Jonathan Weisberg

Associate Professor  
of Philosophy,  
University of Toronto  
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### Teaching.....

#### Elizabeth Anderson

John Dewey  
Distinguished University Professor,  
University of Michigan,  
Ann Arbor  
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## Graduate Coursework

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### Statistics

Random Processes (Ohwadi, Caltech)  
Probability (Tamuz, Caltech)  
Statistical Computing (Bois, Caltech)  
Advanced Bayesian Inference (J. Kang)  
Survival Analysis (Li)  
Machine Learning (Nguyen)  
Linear Models (Thelen)  
Statistical Inference (M. Kang)  
Probability Theory (Braun)  
Game Theory II (Lupia)  
Game Theory I (Osgood)

### Philosophy

Decision Theory (Joyce)  
Formal Methods (Moss)  
Epistemology (Williamson)  
Formal Epistemology (Joyce)  
Moral Psychology (Railton)  
Normative Uncertainty (Weatherson)  
Plato (Evans)  
Lewis (Weatherson)  
Frege (Tappenden)  
Quine (Goldfarb, Harvard)  
Wittengstein (Goldfarb, Harvard)

### Law (Harvard, selected courses)

Public Law Workshop (Minow)  
Constitutional Law, 1st Amend. (Feldman)  
Constitutional Law, 14th Amend. (Minow)  
Comp. Constitutional Law (Michelman)  
Separation of Powers (Kavanaugh)  
Administrative Law (Rakoff)  
International Law (Goldsmith)  
International Law Theory (Alford)  
Federal Litigation (Rosenberg)  
Corporate Law (Ramseyer)  
Bioethics (Cohen)