

# Robert Gruber

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Springfield College  
Humanities and Social Sciences Department  
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## Employment

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Springfield College

2018-present

## Education

Ph.D. Philosophy - University of Massachusetts Amherst (2018)

Dissertation: *The Mismatch Problem for Act Consequentialism*

B.S. Philosophy - University of Wisconsin Madison (2011)

B.S. Mathematics - University of Wisconsin Madison (2011)

## Areas of Specialization

Ethics (Normative and Applied), Environmental Ethics

## Areas of Competence

Philosophy of Sport, Philosophy of Religion, Logic

## Courses Taught

*At Springfield College:*

Honors Seminar in Philosophy - The Good Life (x2)

Philosophy of Sport (x5)

Environmental Ethics (x4)

Existentialism (x3)

Introduction to Healthcare Ethics

Philosophy of Religion

Introduction to Philosophy (x9)

Conflict of Ideals (x8)

Springfield College Seminar (for first year students)

Ethics

Big Questions (Honors Colloquium)  
Logic (Honors Colloquium)  
Making Meaning in the Universe  
What is Happiness? (Honors Independent Study)  
Love and Rage in Liberation Movements (Honors Independent Study)

*At Smith College (as associate instructor):*

Valid and Invalid Reasoning (Fall 2017, with Jay Garfield and Jim Henle)

*At UMass Amherst:*

Introduction to Philosophy (online course)  
Climate Ethics (x2)  
Medical Ethics  
Perspectives on Climate Change (x2)  
Philosophy of Religion  
Introduction to Ethics (x2)

## Presentations

*Presentations about research:*

“Should We Prioritize the Welfare of Animals over the Welfare of People?”	
Eastern American Philosophical Association Conference (refereed)	Jan 2023
Virginia Commonwealth University - Speaker Series (invited)	Oct 2021
Springfield College Humanities and Social Sciences Colloquium	Oct 2021
“The Ethics of Collective Action”	
OLLI Speaker Series, Berkshire Community College (invited)	Apr 2023
Springfield College Humanities and Social Sciences Colloquium	Oct 2020
“Control, Collective Action, and a Solution to the Mismatch Problem”	
Eastern American Philosophical Association (refereed, online)	Jan 2021
Wisconsin Philosophical Association Conference (refereed, online)	Aug 2020
UMass Amherst Philosophy Homecoming Conference (invited)	Oct 2019
“Physics, Philosophy, and Psychology: Play is more than everyone thinks.”	
(Co-Presented with Rick Paar, Ph.D. and James O’Brien, Ph.D.)	

Association for the Study of Play Conference, Harrisonburg VA	Mar 2019
“Harmless Torturers, Accumulation, and a Solution to the Mismatch Problem”	
Eastern American Philosophical Association Conference (refereed)	Jan 2019
“Evaluating the Uncooperativeness Solution to the Mismatch Problem”	
Central American Philosophical Association Conference (refereed)	Feb 2018
“The Mismatch Problem for Expected Utility Act Consequentialism”	
Central American Philosophical Association Conference (refereed)	Mar 2017
“Evaluating Kagan’s Expected Utility Solution”	
Syracuse University Graduate Conference (refereed)	Apr 2016
Intermountain West Graduate Philosophy Conference (refereed)	Mar 2016

*Presentations about teaching:*

“How to Engage Students in Readings”	
Springfield College CETLS Summer Conference	May 2023
“Teaching Intellectual Risk-Taking”	
Springfield College CETLS Summer Conference	May 2018
“Discussing Individual Moral Obligation and Climate Change in the Classroom”	
UMass Center for Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning	Nov 2017
“Rachels on Active and Passive Euthanasia”	
Baystate Franklin Medical Center	Mar 2017

Publications

“Actual Utility, the Mismatch Problem, and the Move to Expected Utility”	Dec 2017
<i>Philosophical Studies</i> 174:3097-3108	

Professional Service

Chaired Conference Sessions	
“Philosophizing for Animals”	

Eastern American Philosophical Association Conference, Montreal      Jan 2023

“Skepticism and Anxiety in Harry Frankfurt’s ‘The Reasons of Love’”

Central American Philosophical Association Conference, Chicago      Feb 2022

Referee for *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, and *Routledge* (hardback monograph program)

Participant in CIC New Currents in Teaching Philosophy Institute      Jul 2023

Member of the Ethics Service at Baystate Franklin Medical Center      2015 - 2020

(The Ethics Service meets bi-monthly to discuss ethical issues that have arisen, or could arise, in the hospital. The Ethics Service is also used to help resolve disputes when formal ethics consultations are requested.)

## College Service

Chair of College Core Curriculum Committee      2023 - present

Senate Representative for Humanities and Social Sciences Department      2022 - present

Co-Organizer of Philosophy and Religion Spring Forum Speaker Series      2019 - present

Member of Honors Program Advisory Committee      2018 - present

Faculty Advisor for Spanish Minor      2023 - present

Outside Reader on PsyD Dissertation Committee      2022 - present

Department Liaison for the Core Curriculum      Fall 2021

Member of Wellness Passport Committee      2020 - 2021

Member of Boyer Scholarship Model Task Force      2021 - 2022

Member of School Faculty Development and Status Committee      2019 - 2020

Faculty Search Committee Member

Interdisciplinary Social Scientist Search      2023

Biology Professor Search      2020

Math Professor Search      2019

Philosophy Department Curriculum Development (at UMass Amherst)      2017

Residential Academic Programs Instruction (at UMass Amherst)      2016

First Year Seminar Development (Perspectives on Climate Change, at UMass)      2015