

February 2026

MANISH OZA

Faculty of Law
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1. EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2021–	Assistant Professor	University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Law Cross-appointed to Department of Philosophy
2025	Visiting Professor	Global Professional Master of Laws Program University of Toronto, Faculty of Law
2020–21	Law Clerk	Supreme Court of Canada (Justice Rowe)
2016–17	Law Clerk	Court of Appeal for Ontario

2. EDUCATION

2020	PhD	University of Toronto, Department of Philosophy Title: <i>Logical Form and the Limits of Thought</i>
2018		Birkbeck, University of London (visiting research student)
2015	JD	University of Toronto, Faculty of Law
2011	BA (Hons)	University of Oxford

3. PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Published papers

Forthcoming	Justiciability in Private Law: Religion and Politics . <i>Osgoode Hall Law Journal</i> .
Forthcoming	Voluntary Associations and the Rule of Law . <i>McGill Law Journal</i> .
2025	Can We Legally Revise the Highest Legal Rule? <i>Legal Theory</i> .
2024	The Personality of Public Authorities . <i>Law and Philosophy</i> .
2024	Agency and Theoretical Reason in <i>The Practical Self</i> . <i>Inquiry</i> .
2023	Structural Analysis and the Canadian Constitution . (With M. Rowe.) <i>Canadian Bar Review</i> .
2023	Fictions in Legal Reasoning . <i>Dialogue</i> .
2022	Nonsense: A User's Guide . <i>Inquiry</i> .
2022	Hegel and Formal Idealism . <i>Hegel Bulletin</i> .
2022	Tort Claims Against Public Authorities . (With M. Rowe.) <i>Alberta Law Review</i> .
2020	The Value of Thinking and the Normativity of Logic . <i>Philosophers' Imprint</i> .

Treatise chapters, reports, etc.

- Forthcoming Advocacy and the Best Interests of Charitable Corporations. (With Benjamin Miller.) For the Law Commission of Canada project, *Charity and Law in Canada*.
 2024 Intention to Contract. In Jason Neyers (ed), *Fridman on Contracts* (8th ed).

Book reviews

- Forthcoming Eric Claeys, *Natural Property Rights. Law and Philosophy*.
 2025 [Gabriele Badano & Alasia Nuti, *Politicizing Political Liberalism*](#). Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews.
 2024 [Allan Beever, *Freedom Under the Private Law*](#). Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence.
 2024 [Daniel Chandler, *Free and Equal: What Would a Fair Society Look Like?*](#) Perspectives Journal (online).
 2020 [Irit Samet, *Equity: Conscience Comes to Market*](#). University of Toronto Law Journal.
 2015 [Edward Kanterian, *Frege*](#). History of Philosophy & Logical Analysis.

Work in progress (draft papers available upon request)

- Draft Personification in Private Law
 Draft Legal Reasoning and Ordinary Reasoning

Interviews, blog posts, case comments etc

- 2025 Lindsay Borrows (Queen's Law) on Indigenous law and language, Law and Language Blog, <https://lawandlanguage.ca/2025/02/05/interview-with-lindsay-borrows/>
 2018 Commentary on *Mikisew Cree First Nation v Canada*, OBA Aboriginal Law Section
 2017 Commentary on *Cowper-Smith v Morgan*, CanLII Connects

Conference presentations

- 2026 Legal Reasoning and Ordinary Reasoning. University of Calgary, Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series
 2026 Legal Reasoning and Ordinary Reasoning. University of Western Ontario, Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series
 2025 Personifying Nature in Private Law. Legal Personality in Private Law Workshop, Notre Dame Law (Rome)
 2025 Convergence in Property Theory. Obligations XI, Harvard Law
 2025 The Rights of Nature. Canadian Philosophical Association (CPA) Congress
 2025 Revising the Highest Rule Legally and Democratically. Berger International Speaker Series, Cornell Law School
 2024 Is There a Doctrine of Justiciability in Private Law? Canadian Law of Obligations IV, Université de Montréal

2024	Revising the Highest Rule Legally and Democratically. Deliberative Governance and Law Workshop, University of Toronto
2024	Public Private Censorship. Standing and Disagreement Workshop, York University
2024	Can We Legally Revise the Highest Legal Rule? American Philosophical Association (APA) Central Annual Meeting
2023	Can We Legally Revise the Highest Legal Rule? CS-IVR Workshop (online)
2023	The Personality of Public Authorities. Obligations X, Banff
2023	Can We Legally Revise the Highest Legal Rule? Legal Reasoning and Adjudication Workshop, University of Wisconsin – Madison
2023	The Personality of Public Authorities. North American Workshop in Private Law Theory (NAWPLT-IX), UCLA School of Law
2022	The Personality of Public Authorities. MANCEPT Workshop, Corporate Agency and the Responsibilities of Citizens and States
2022	Voluntary Associations and the Rule of Law. Canadian Law of Obligations III, UBC
2022	Fictions in Legal Reasoning. UK-IVR 2022 Annual Conference
2022	Fictions in Legal Reasoning. CPA Congress
2019	Holism and the Limits of Thought. 8th Annual Wiener Forum für Analytische Philosophie Graduate Conference
2018	The Value of Thinking and the Normativity of Logic. Logic, Epistemology and Metaphysics Seminar, Institute of Philosophy, London
2018	The Necessity and Rationality of Legal Disagreement. Ontario Legal Philosophy Partnership (OLPP) Graduate Conference
2018	Husserl's Theory of Logic: Contradiction and Countersense. Society for the Study of the History of Analytic Philosophy Annual Meeting
2018	Illogical Thought and the External Conception. CPA Congress
2017	Kant and Original Acquisition. OLPP Graduate Conference
2016	Hegel and Formal Idealism. APA Pacific Annual Meeting
2016	Hegel and Formal Idealism. Ontario Quebec Hegel Organization Conference, Toronto

Commentaries

Upcoming	Jonathan Livengood, 'On the Normativity of Logic', APA Central Division Meeting 2026
2024	Eric Wilkinson, 'Anscombe's Philosophy of Law', CPA Congress
2023	Anil Gomes, <i>The Practical Self</i> , New Work on the Self Workshop, University of Toronto
2022	Rebecca Stone, 'Normative Uncertainty, Normative Powers, and Limits on Freedom of Contract', Yale-Toronto Private Law Theory Workshop
2018	Jacob Weinrib, 'The Puzzle of the State', Toronto Graduate Research Weekend
2017	Christopher Jordan-Stephens, 'A Conflict of Principles: The Origin and Problem of Conceptualism in Kant's Philosophy', CPA Congress
2017	Thomas Hofweber, 'Idealism and the Harmony between Thought and Reality', Workshop: The Intellect and its Philosophical Limits, Simon Fraser University
2016	Helen Steward, 'Bradley's Regress and a Problem in Action Theory', University of Toronto Philosophy Graduate Conference

4. RESEARCH FUNDING

2026	SSHRC Connection Grant (\$19,073), with Andy Yu
2024	Western Interdisciplinary Development Initiative Grant (\$34,691), with Andy Yu
2024	SSHRC Connection Grant (\$17,780), with Andy Yu
2023	Canadian Journal of Philosophy Conference Grant (CAD \$1500), with Andy Yu
2023	Law Open Educational Resource Grant (CAD \$10,000), with Nadia Lambek & Andy Yu
2022–23	SSHRC Exchange Grant (CAD \$4,974.06), with Larissa Katz
2019–20	Ontario Graduate Scholarship (CAD \$15,000)
2018	SSHRC Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement (CAD \$6000)
2015–19	SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarship (CAD \$105,000)
2014	Ontario Graduate Scholarship (CAD \$15,000)

5. HONOURS AND AWARDS

2022	Untenured Faculty Essay Prize, Canadian Philosophical Association Congress
2021	Honourable Mention, 2020 David Savan Dissertation Prize
2018	Honorary Fellow, Centre for Logic and Language, Institute of Philosophy
2015	Martha Lile Love Essay Award (for best graduate philosophy essay)
2015	Class of 1967 Prize (ranking 2nd in 3rd year of law school)
2014	Patricia Julia Myhal Scholarship in Legal Writing

6. TEACHING

Law school teaching (Western Law)

2025-26	Property; Legal Research, Writing and Advocacy
2024-25	Property; Administrative Law
2023-24	Property; Administrative Law; Jurisprudence; Julius Alexander Isaac Moot
2022–23	Property; Legal Research, Writing and Advocacy; Julius Alexander Isaac Moot
2021–22	Property; Legal Research, Writing and Advocacy; Julius Alexander Isaac Moot

Global Professional Master of Laws Program (University of Toronto, Faculty of Law)

2025	Property
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Undergraduate teaching as lead instructor (University of Toronto, Department of Philosophy)

2018	Topics in Philosophy of Law: Pluralism
2017–18	Lead Writing Teaching Assistant

7. OTHER SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee for *Philosophy & Phenomenological Research*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Res Philosophica*, *Ergo*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Hegel Bulletin*, *Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence* (4), *Criminal Law & Philosophy*, *Law & Literature*, *Noûs*, *Synthese*, *Inquiry* (2), University of Toronto Press, *Organon F*, *Alberta Law Review*, *UBC Law Review*

2025	Organizer, Moral and Legal Personality Symposium, CPA Congress
2024–	Co-director, Legal Philosophy Research Group, Western Law
2024–	Co-organizer, Law and Language Project , with Andy Yu
2024	Co-organizer, New Directions in Law and Language Workshop, with Andy Yu
2023–	Member, Programs Committee, Canadian Philosophical Association
2023–	Co-organizer, Critical Race Theory Reading Group, with Nadia Lambek
2023	Co-organizer, Group Ownership Workshop, with Larissa Katz
2022	Commission Counsel, Ottawa Light Rail Transit Public Inquiry
2018–19	Member-at-Large, Aboriginal Law Section Executive, Ontario Bar Association
2014–15	Senior Editorial Board, Indigenous Law Journal

Quotes in media commentary

“‘Lessons to be learned’ from report on University of Alberta campus protest, legal expert says”, Law360 Canada (December 19, 2024)

“Observers concerned about use of notwithstanding clause to protect Ontario trespass, drug use law”, Law360 Canada (December 19, 2024)

“Municipalities should tread lightly when considering protest ‘bubble zones,’ lawyers say”, Law360 Canada (November 18, 2024)

“Danger of normalizing use of notwithstanding clause ‘cannot be overstated’: civil liberties group”, Law360 Canada (November 18, 2024)

“Ontario mayors’ calls on homelessness, addiction raise spectre of involuntary detention: CCLA”, Law360 Canada (October 25, 2024)

“Issue of trespass on university campuses less clear than it is for private property: legal scholar”, Law360 Canada (June 6, 2024)

8. ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES

2025-26	Clerkships Committee, Co-director; Cherniak Cup, Director
2024-25	Clerkships Committee, Co-director; Cherniak Cup, Director
2023-24	Clerkships Committee, Co-director; Cherniak Cup, Director
2022–23	Clerkships Committee, Co-director