

Milan Mossé
milan_mosse@berkeley.edu
mmosse19.github.io

Education

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 2026 (expected) | Ph.D. , Philosophy, UC Berkeley Committee: Johann Frick (co-chair), R. Jay Wallace (co-chair), Anna Stilz |
| 2024 | M.S. , Computer Science, Stanford Research supervisors: Thomas Icard, Omer Reingold, Li-Yang Tan |
| 2020 | B.A. Philosophy (Honors), B.S. Math, Stanford Thesis advisors: Michael Bratman, Barry Maguire |

Areas

Specialization: ethics and political philosophy

Competence: action, language, logic, science

Dissertation: What We Can Ask of Each Other

Requesters seem to have what is, on reflection, a remarkable power: to create reasons at will. My dissertation explores this central but overlooked dimension of our normative lives. How can requesters to give us reasons to do what they want, even when they stand in no relation of authority over us? And what would be lost if we saw requests as devices for communicating the existence of pre-existing reasons, rather than creating new ones? I explain how requests create reasons and how the values served by the power to request constrain its permissible use. In characterizing the valuable relationships sustained by requests, my dissertation develops a view of reciprocity that sheds new light on a wide range of further issues, including the morality of markets, duties of fairness, distributive justice, and our reasons to care about future generations.

Under review

- Modeling Discrimination with Causal Abstraction
R&R, *Noûs* // Milan Mossé, Kara Schechtman, Frederick Eberhardt, Thomas Icard
- How Requests Create Reasons
- Why not Ask?
- Two Kinds of Reciprocity
- Stable Voting and the Splitting of Cycles
Wesley H. Holliday, Chase Norman, Milan Mossé, Eric Pacuit, Cynthia Wang

Peer-reviewed publications

 [Google Scholar](#)  [PhilPapers](#)

- 2025 How to Count Sore Throats
Analysis // Léa Bourguignon, Milan Mossé
- 2024 On Probabilistic and Causal Reasoning with Summation Operators
Journal of Logic and Computation // Duligur Ibeling, Thomas Icard, Milan Mossé
- 2024 Social Choice for AI Alignment: Dealing with Diverse Human Feedback
International Conference on Machine Learning // Vincent Conitzer, Rachel Freedman, Jobst Heitzig, Wesley Holliday, Bob Jacobs, Nathan Lambert, Milan Mossé, Eric Pacuit, Stuart Russell, Hailey Schoelkopf, Emanuel Tewolde, William Zwicker
- 2023 Probing the Quantitative-Qualitative Divide in Probabilistic Reasoning
Annals of Pure and Applied Logic // Duligur Ibeling, Thomas Icard, Krzysztof Mierzewski, Milan Mossé
- 2023 Multiplicative Metric Fairness Under Composition
Foundations of Responsible Computing // Milan Mossé
- 2022 Is Causal Reasoning Harder than Probabilistic Reasoning?
Review of Symbolic Logic // Milan Mossé, Duligur Ibeling, Thomas Icard
- 2022 A Generalization of the Satisfiability Coding Lemma and Its Applications
International Conference on Theory and Applications of Satisfiability Testing // Milan Mossé, Harry Sha, Li-Yang Tan ([Best Theory Paper Award](#))
- 2021 Conditional Negative Sampling for Contrastive Learning of Visual Representations
International Conference on Machine Learning // Mike Wu, Milan Mossé, Chengxu Zhuang, Daniel Yamins, Noah Goodman
- 2019 Zero Shot Learning for Code Education: Rubric Sampling with Deep Learning Inference
Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence // Mike Wu, Milan Mossé, Noah Goodman, Chris Piech ([Outstanding Student Paper Award](#))

Graduate coursework

University of California, Berkeley

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Fall 2025 | Philosophy of Language, with Seth Yalcin |
| Spr 2025 | Ethics and Time,* with Johann Frick |
| Fall 2024 | Disagreement,* with Joshua Cohen & Véronique Munoz-Dardé |
| 2022-23 | <i>Qualifying Exams:</i> Hume's Sentimentalism, with Olivia Bailey Contractualism, with R. Jay Wallace Question-Sensitivity, with Seth Yalcin |
| Spr 2022 | Individual, Social, and Ethical Choice, with Wesley Holliday |
| Spr 2022 | Thought, Character, and Action in Aristotle, with Tim Clarke |
| Fall 2021 | Ethical Theories, with R. Jay Wallace |
| Fall 2021 | The Common Ground, with John MacFarlane & Seth Yalcin |

Individualism and Its Limits

2025 MANCEPT Workshop on Moral Aggregation

Equality and Alienation

2025 Berkeley Political Philosophy Workshop

Treating Others Merely as Ends

2025 Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference

Reasoning about Confirmation

2025 Probability Logic Workshop, CMU

Why not Ask? (formerly “The Requesting-Offering Asymmetry”)

2025 Central APA Symposium

2024 Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress

Modeling Discrimination with Causal Abstraction

2025 Departmental Talk, Emory*

2024 CEPDISC

2024 Stanford Logic Seminar*

Care as Respecting a Sensibility

2024 Harvard Workshop on Care and Love

Conditional Intention Ascriptions

2024 Agency and Intentions in Language

Modeling Structural Injustice

2023 Stanford Logic Seminar*

How to Count Sore Throats

2023 LSE Choice Group*

*invited; all others refereed

Teaching

University of California, Berkeley

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Fall 2025 | TA, Philosophy of Science, with Ezra Rubenstein |
| Fall 2024 | TA, Political Philosophy: Equality and Identity, with Véronique Munoz-Dardé |
| Sum 2024 | Co-Instructor, Individual Morality and Social Justice, with Russell McIntosh |
| Fall 2023 | TA, Political Philosophy, with Véronique Munoz-Dardé |
| Sum 2023 | TA, Contemporary Ethical Issues, with Tim Crockett |
| Fall 2022 | TA, Bioethics, with Johann Frick |
| Sum 2022 | TA, Philosophy of Race, Ethnicity, and Citizenship, with Tim Crockett |
| Spr 2022 | TA, Individual Morality and Social Justice, with Johann Frick |
| Fall 2021 | TA, Nature of Mind, with John Campbell |

Stanford University

Spr 2024 TA, Incentives in Computer Science, with Aviad Rubenstein

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Sum 2020 | TA, Design and Analysis of Algorithms, with Karey Shi |
| Win 2020 | TA, Design and Analysis of Algorithms, with Mary Wootters |
| Win 2018 | TA, Programming Abstractions, with Marty Stepp |
| Fall 2018 | TA, Programming Methodology, with Mehran Sahami |

Service

Diversity, equity, and inclusion

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| AY 2021-22, 2024-25 | Graduate Representative, Equity Task Force; Focus on Trans Inclusion |
| AY 2021-22, 2023-24 | Co-Organizer, Minorities and Philosophy |
| Fall 2022 | Co-Organizer, COMPASS Workshop |
| Spr 2021 | Un-Naming Proposal Co-Author, Moses Hall Name Review Committee |

Other organizing, chairing, and refereeing

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Fall 2025 | Co-Organizer, MANCEPT Limited Aggregation Workshop |
| Spr 2022, 2023, 2025 | Founder, Co-Organizer, & Mentor, Directed Reading Program |
| AY 2020-21, 2023-2024 | Organizer, Graduate Work-in-Progress Talks |
| Spr 2023 | Grad Organizer, Social Choice for AI Ethics & Safety Workshop |
| AY 2022-23 | Grad Organizer, Department Colloquia |
| Spr 2021/2023, AY 2023-24 | Organizer, Faculty Work-in-Progress Talks |
| Spr 2022 | Organizer, Latin American Philosophy Reading Group |
| AY 2021-22 | Organizer, Feminism and Masculinity Reading Group |
| Chair (selected) | Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (2024); Central APA (2025); Arizona Workshop in Normative Ethics (invitation by submitted abstract) |
| Referee | Computational Complexity Conference (CCC); Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS; ×5); International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML; ×5), International Colloquium on Automata, Languages and Programming (ICALP); International Symposium on Algorithms and Computation (ISAAC); Journal of Moral Philosophy (×4); Logic Journal of the IGPL (×3); Philosophical Studies (×2); Utilitas |

Skills

Languages: German (reading) and Spanish (professional proficiency)
Coding: C, C++, Python

References

Thomas F. Icard

C. I. Lewis Professor of Philosophy and (by courtesy) Professor of Computer Science
Stanford University

icard@stanford.edu

Johann Frick

Associate Professor of Philosophy
University of California, Berkeley
jfrick@berkeley.edu

Véronique Munoz-Dardé (teaching reference)

Professor of Philosophy
University College London
Mills Adjunct Professor of Philosophy
University of California, Berkeley
munoz_darde@berkeley.edu

R. Jay Wallace

William and Trudy Ausfahl Chair in Philosophy
University of California, Berkeley
rjw@berkeley.edu

Seth Yalcin

Professor of Philosophy
University of California, Berkeley
yalcin@berkeley.edu

Last updated: September 11, 2025