

# BEN JONES

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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<b>Pennsylvania State University</b> , Assistant Director, Rock Ethics Institute	2017–Present
<b>University of Kansas</b> , Lecturer, Political Science	2016–2017
<b>University of Missouri-Kansas City</b> , Lecturer, Criminal Justice and Criminology	2016

## EDUCATION

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<b>Yale University</b> , PhD, Political Science	2016
<i>Comp Exams</i> : political philosophy, empirical methods, religion and politics (with distinction)	
<b>Yale University</b> , MPhil, Political Science	2012
<b>Yale University</b> , MA, Political Science	2011
<b>The Ohio State University</b> , BA (2), Political Science and French ( <i>summa cum laude</i> )	2006

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Books

- 2021 (December). *Apocalypse without God: Apocalyptic Thought, Ideal Politics, and the Limits of Utopian Hope*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- 2021 (July). *The Ethics of Policing: New Perspectives on Law Enforcement*. New York: New York University Press. (co-edited with Eduardo Mendieta)

### Journal Articles

- Forthcoming. “Police-Generated Killings: The Gap between Ethics and Law.” *Political Research Quarterly*.
2021. “Eating Meat and Not Vaccinating: In Defense of the Analogy.” *Bioethics* 35(2): 135–42.
2020. “Political Activism and Research Ethics.” *Journal of Applied Philosophy* 37(2): 233–48.
2020. “The Challenges of Ideal Theory and Appeal of Secular Apocalyptic Thought.” *European Journal of Political Theory* 19(4): 465–88.
2019. “The Natural Kingdom of God in Hobbes’s Political Thought.” *History of European Ideas* 45(3): 436–53.
2018. “The Republican Party, Conservatives, and the Future of Capital Punishment.” *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology* 108(2): 223–52.
2017. “Building Authentic Power: A Study of the Campaign to Repeal Connecticut’s Death Penalty.” *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 5(2): 321–42. (with Khalilah Brown-Dean)
2016. “Authenticity in Political Discourse.” *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 19(2): 489–504.

### Book Chapters

- 2021 (July). “Police Ethics after Ferguson.” In *The Ethics of Policing: New Perspectives on Law Enforcement*, ed. Ben Jones and Eduardo Mendieta, 1–22. New York: New York University Press. (with Eduardo Mendieta)
2016. “Drones and Dirty Hands.” In *Preventive Force: Drones, Targeted Killing, and the Transformation of Contemporary Warfare*, ed. Kerstin Fisk and Jennifer Ramos, 283–

312. New York: New York University Press. (with John Parrish)

### **Commentary and Review**

2020. “Why, even in a Small Pa. College Town, Black People Distrust Police.” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, June 30. (with Eleanor Brown and also published in *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*)
2016. “Despite Obama’s New Executive Order, U.S. Drone Policy May Still Violate International Law.” *The Monkey Cage*, *The Washington Post*, July 7.
2015. “Ending the Death Penalty Because of, not in Spite of, Conservative Principles.” *The Harvard Law Record*, November 15.
2012. “Connecticut Repeal of Capital Punishment Signals National Trend.” *Jurist*, May 16.
2007. “Review: *Strategies of Commitment and other Essays* by Thomas Schelling.” *Ethics* 118(1): 176–81. (with Michael Neblo)

### **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

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#### **Book**

*Making Protection of Life a Priority: The Ethics of Police Deadly Force*

#### **Papers**

- “Police Obligations to Aggressors with Mental Illness” (under review)
- “Can Capital Punishment Be Justified Defensive Killing?”
- “Hobbes and the Lesser-Evil Argument for Political Authority” (with my student Manshu Tian)

### **SELECT AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS**

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2021. Penn State Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem (TOME) Grant: ~\$15,000
2020. Rock Ethics Institute Undergraduate Ethics Fellowship (for student coauthor): \$1,000
2019. Association for Practical and Professional Ethics Best Paper by Early Career Scholar: \$500
2017. Penn State Justice Center for Research Grant: \$3,500 (with Eduardo Mendieta)
2017. Penn State Social Science Research Institute Grant: \$3,500 (with Eduardo Mendieta)
2015. American Political Science Association Travel Grant: \$125
2007. Yale University Fellowship: full tuition and stipend
2007. Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship: \$5,000
2006. Beinecke Scholarship: \$32,000
2006. Valedictorian of Ohio State: 1st of 1,542 students

### **PRESENTATIONS**

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#### **Invited Talks**

- 2020. “The Ethics of Addressing Racial Disparities in Police Deadly Force.” Racial Injustice Globally Series by Penn State School of International Affairs, State College, PA
- 2017. “Do Political Scientists Have an Ethical Duty to Avoid Political Activism?” Moral Psychology Research Group Conference, State College, PA
- 2016. “The Republican Party, Conservatives, and the Future of Capital Punishment,” Symposium on the Death Penalty at Northwestern Law School, Chicago, IL
- 2015. “The Death Penalty in Arkansas: Should It be Abolished?” University of Arkansas

### Conference and Workshop Presentations

- 2021 Contemporary Challenges for Just War Theory, Virtual/Philadelphia, PA
- 2021 International Hobbes Association Conference, Virtual
- 2020 Association for Political Theory Conference, Virtual/Amherst, MA
- 2020 Penn State Bioethics Colloquium, Virtual/State College, PA
- 2020 Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, Virtual/Boulder, CO
- 2020 Moral Agency Workshop at Penn State, State College, PA
- 2019 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
- 2019 Association for Practical and Professional Ethics Conference, Baltimore, MD
- 2019 Penn State Law Faculty Workshop Series, State College, PA
- 2018 Association for Political Theory Conference, Haverford and Bryn Mawr, PA
- 2018 Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2018 Moral Agency Workshop at Penn State, State College, PA
- 2017 Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC
- 2017 American Philosophical Association Eastern Meeting, Baltimore, MD
- 2016 Institute for Humane Studies Graduate Research Colloquium, Towson, MD
- 2016 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
- 2015 Great Plains Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Kansas City, MO
- 2015 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA
- 2015 New England Political Science Association Annual Meeting, New Haven, CT
- 2014 Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA
- 2013 Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- Pennsylvania State University**, Assistant Research Professor 2017–Present
- PHIL 105: Philosophy of Law, Spring 2020 and 2021
  - PLSC 17: Introduction to Political Theory, Fall 2018
  - PHIL 432: Medical and Health Care Ethics, Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 (guest lectures)
- University of Kansas**, Lecturer 2016–2017
- POLS 619: Topics in American Politics: Death Penalty in U.S. Politics, Spring 2017
  - POLS 607: Modern Political Theory, Spring 2017
  - POLS 501: Contemporary Political Thought, Fall 2016
  - POLS 495: Topeka Semester Intern Seminar, Spring 2016
  - POLS 494: Washington Semester Intern Seminar, Spring 2016
- University of Missouri-Kansas City**, Lecturer 2016
- CJC 482: The Death Penalty in America, Spring 2016
- Yale University**, Teaching Assistant 2011
- PLSC 111: Introduction to International Relations, Summer 2011

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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### Service

Member, University Ethics Committee, Penn State (2017–Present)  
Chair, Rock Ethics Institute Fellowship Selection Committees, Penn State (2017–Present)  
Chair, Stand Up Awards Selection Committee, Penn State (2018–Present)  
Judge, Ethics and Engineering Case Competition, Penn State (2017–2018)  
Judge, Association for Practical and Professional Ethics Undergraduate Paper Competition (2021)

### Memberships

American Political Science Association  
Association for Political Theory  
European Hobbes Society

### Conferences/Events Organized

Lippin Lecture in Ethics featuring author Virginia Eubanks, Penn State (2020)  
Legacies of Lynching with author Dennis Downey, Penn State (2019)  
Lippin Lecture in Ethics featuring author Bryan Stevenson, Penn State (2019)  
Ethics of Policing Conference, Penn State (2018)  
Rock Ethics Institute Colloquia, Penn State (2017–Present)

**Reviewer:** *Bioethics, Environmental Philosophy, Human Rights Review, Social Theory and Practice* (3)

## NON-PROFIT WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Equal Justice USA**, Brooklyn, NY 2012–2017  
Campaign Strategist (based in Kansas)

- Provided strategic advice and assistance to state organizations in Kansas, Utah, Florida, and elsewhere in their efforts to end or limit the death penalty

**Tides Foundation**, San Francisco, CA 2011–2014  
Death Penalty Mobilization Fund Grant Advisor

- Evaluated grant proposals by state organizations working against the death penalty, and advised on what groups should receive funding priority

**Connecticut Network to Abolish the Death Penalty**, Hartford, CT 2009–2012  
Executive Director

- Directed statewide organizing, lobbying, and media campaign that led to repeal of Connecticut's death penalty in 2012, as well as increased annual organization budget (\$50,000 to over \$350,000) and staff (one to eight)

**Languages:** French, Latin, and Spanish (reading proficiency)