

Elizabeth Ventham

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Areas of Specialization: Normative Ethics, Metaethics, Moral Psychology

Areas of Competence: Applied Ethics, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind, Early Modern Philosophy, Epistemology, Feminist Philosophy.

Teaching Experience:

Teaching Fellow at Trinity College Dublin 2018-19, convening the following modules:

Ethics: Well-being (1st Year Philosophy) (Half-module)

An Introduction to Moral Philosophy (1st Year Philosophy) (Half-module)

Moral Philosophy (3rd Year Philosophy)

Ethics and Moral Motivation (4th Year Philosophy and PhD students)

Ethics (MPhil Philosophy)

Guest Lecturer for The University of Southampton for the following modules:

Appearance and Reality (2nd Year Philosophy) : Berkeley on Idealism 2017-18

Course Convenor for The University of Southampton for the following modules:

Ethical Theory and Philosophy (Student Selected Unit for 3rd year medical students) 2016-17, 2017-18

Teaching Assistant for The University of Southampton for the following modules:

Appearance and Reality (2nd Year Philosophy) 2016-17, 2017-18

Jekyll & Hyde: Ethics in Science, Engineering and Technology (2nd Year Open) 2015-16

Knowledge and Mind (1st Year Philosophy) 2016-17, 2015-16, 2014-15

Ethics (1st Year Philosophy) 2014-15

Education:

2014 – PhD in Philosophy. University of Southampton. Passed with minor corrections in October 2018.

Supervised by Alex Gregory and Fiona Woollard

Thesis title: *Desires, Reasons and Moral Obligations*

My thesis looks at the connection between desires and what's valuable, what reasons we have, and what we ought to do. Chapters 1 and 2 defend the idea that agents' reasons to act are necessarily linked to what they desire. Chapters 3 and 4 look at what we ought to do. The project looks to promote a better understanding of our mental states, our desires and our motivations and what this can tell us about our moral lives.

I am also interested in understanding mental health (particularly depression), and how it relates to action and motivation. This is a topic that's come up a lot in work for my thesis, and that I'm now pursuing independently.

2013-2014 MA Philosophy, Distinction. University of Southampton

Dissertation title: *Moral Obligations and The Demandingness Objection*

Supervised by Jonathan Way

2009-2012 BA Philosophy, First Class Honours. University of Southampton

Dissertation Title: *Act- Consequentialism as a More Accurate Moral Code than Rule-Consequentialism*

Supervised by Jonathan Way

Publications

- **Supererogation and the Case Against an 'Overall Ought'** – Forthcoming in American Philosophical Quarterly (full draft available upon request).

Selected Works In Progress:

- **Reflective Blindness and Depression** - Under Review (full draft available upon request)
- **Motivations for the Desire Account** (In progress)
- **Internal Reasons and Persuadability** (In progress)
- **Hypothetical Imperatives and a Response to Bootstrapping** (In progress)
- **Moral Imperatives without Categoricity** (In progress)
- **Weighing Reasons** (In progress)

Presentations and Responses:

- **Different Kinds of 'Oughts' and a Response to Bootstrapping Objections**
 - (2018) Morality and Rationality Revisited, University of Leeds

- **Supererogation and the Case Against an ‘Overall Ought’**
 - (2018) Future of Normativity, University of Kent
 - (2016) Understanding Value V, University of Sheffield

- **Practical Reasons and Persuadability**
 - (2018) Understanding Value VII, University of Sheffield
 - (2018) REAPP, Reading

- **Reflective Blindness and Depression**
 - (2018) Poster presentation at BSET, University of Sheffield

- **Pleasure and Pain: A Defence of the Motivational Account**
 - (2017) Postgraduate Sessions at The Joint Sessions in Edinburgh
 - (2017) Women in Philosophy Amsterdam Postgraduate Conference
 - (2017) Understanding Value VI, University of Sheffield
 - (2016) Open Minds XII, University of Manchester

- **Response to Alfonso Anaya’s *Radical Externalism and the Three-Place Relational View of Experience***
 - (2015) BPPA, Southampton

- **Are Our Intuitions about Morally Prohibited Acts Appropriate for Judging Morality?**
 - (2013) Masterclass on ‘The Right and the Good’, University of Southampton

Academic Services / Administrative Duties:

2018 – Appointed **Co-Director of MAP UK**, a growing initiative with 18 UK chapters (and 98 chapters worldwide). <https://mapuk.weebly.com/>

2017 – Became **Postgraduate Representative** for The University of Southampton’s philosophy department.

2016 – **Founded MAP Chapter** at The University of Southampton (Minorities and Philosophy) see <http://mapuk.weebly.com/> and <https://mapsouthampton.wordpress.com/> for details.

2016 – **Co-organised British Society for Aesthetics Postgraduate Conference**

Organised submissions and blind refereeing.

2015 - Co-organised British Postgraduate Philosophy Association Conference

Organised and invited keynotes, organised the careers day, reviewed papers, chaired talks, gave welcome and closing talks.

2014 – **Gave careers talks and demonstration sessions** to college students about studying philosophy at University of Southampton.

Awards:

2018 – Nominated for a '**Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Award**' for my "excellent contribution to teaching" by the Director of Programmes in Philosophy. Results to come later this year.

2018 – Awarded a '**Doctoral College Research Award**', for the best piece of research in the Faculty of Humanities.

2017 – Awarded '**Best Postgraduate Teaching Assistant**' in the university-wide Southampton Student's Union Academic Awards.

2017 – Awarded a '**Doctoral College 2017 Director's Award**', a university-wide award, under the category 'Citizenship and Community'.

2014 – Awarded a **Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship** for PhD study at The University of Southampton.

2013 – Awarded a **Sue Wilson Scholarship** for MA study at The University of Southampton.

Referees

Available upon request.