

# John Thrasher

John.Thrasher@Monash.edu  
[www.JohnJThrasher.com](http://www.JohnJThrasher.com)

USA Citizen | Australian Permanent Resident

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Political Philosophy, Moral Philosophy

## AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Rational Choice Theory & Game Theory, Philosophy of Economics, Business Ethics

## DEGREES

PhD 2014 University of Arizona  
MA 2011 University of Arizona  
BA 2004 University of Colorado, Boulder

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2018-Present	Assistant Professor	Philosophy Department & Smith Institute for Political Economy and Philosophy, Chapman University
2014-2018	Lecturer (Tenured)	Monash University

## PUBLICATIONS

2018

"Honor and Violence: An Account of Feuds, Duels, and Honor Killings (In Press, 2018) with Toby Handfield, *Human Nature*

"Greenbeards and Signaling: Why Morality isn't Indispensable" (In Press, 2018) with Toby Handfield and Julian Garcia, *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*

"When Equality Matters" (In Press, 2018) *The Palgrave Handbook of Philosophy and Public Policy*, edited by David Boonin, Palgrave

"Evaluating Bad Norms" (In Press, 2018) *Social Philosophy & Policy*

"Political Stability in the Open Society" (In Press, 2017) with Kevin Vallier, *American Journal of Political Science* 10.1111/ajps.12333

"Constructivism, Representation, and Stability: Path-Dependence in Public Reason Theories of Justice" (In Press, 2018) *Synthese* DOI: 10.1007/s11229-017-1488-7

2017

"On *The Calculus of Consent*," with Gerald Gaus, (2017) *The Oxford Handbook of Classics in Contemporary Political Theory*, edited by Jacob Levy, Oxford University Press DOI: DOI: 10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198717133.013.25

"Peer Punishment Promotes Enforcement of Bad Social Norms" with Klaus Abbink, Lata Gangadharan, and Toby Handfield, *Nature Communications* 8 (2017). DOI: 10.1038/s41467-017-00731-0

“Social Contractarianism” *The Routledge Handbook of Libertarianism*, edited by Jason Brennan, and Bas van der Vossen, and David Schmidtz, Routledge (2017): 212-226.

“Contemporary Approaches to the Social Contract,” with Gerald Gaus and Fred D’Agostino, *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (2017).

2016

“The Ethics of Legislative Vote Trading” *Political Studies* 64, no.3 (2016): 614-629

2015

“Rational Choice and the Original Position: The (Many) Models of Rawls and Harsanyi,” with Gerald Gaus, *The Original Position*, edited by Timothy Hinton, Cambridge University Press (2015): 39-58.

“The Fragility of Consensus: Public Reason, Diversity and Stability,” with Kevin Vallier, *The European Journal of Philosophy* 23, no.4 (2015): 933-954

“Adam Smith and the Social Contract,” *The Adam Smith Review* 8 (2015): 195-216

“Bankers, Vampires, and Organ Sellers: Who Can You Trust?” with David Schmidtz, *Commerce and Community: Ecologies of Social Cooperation*, edited by Robert Garnett, Paul Lewis, and Lenore Ealy, Routledge (2015): 336-341

“When Justice Demands Inequality,” with Keith Hankins, *The Journal of Moral Philosophy* 12, no.2 (2015): 172-194

2014

“Uniqueness and Symmetry in Bargaining Theories of Justice,” *Philosophical Studies* 167, no. 3 (2014): 683-699.

“The Virtues of Justice,” with David Schmidtz, *Virtues and their Vices*, edited by Kevin Timpe and Craig A. Boyd, Oxford University Press (2014): 59-74

“Ordering Anarchy,” *Rationality, Markets and Morals* (Special Topic: Can the Social Contract Be Signed by an Invisible Hand? Edited by Geoffrey Brennan and Bernd Lahno) 5, no. 1 (2014): 30-46

2013

“Reconciling Justice and Pleasure in Epicurean Contractarianism,” *Ethical Theory & Moral Practice* 16, no. 2 (2013): 423-436

“Social Evolution,” with Gerald Gaus, *The Routledge Companion to Social and Political Philosophy*, edited by Gerald Gaus and Fred D’Agostino, Routledge (2013): 643-655

#### EDITED VOLUMES

*Creating Wealth: Ethical and Economic Perspectives* with David Schmidtz, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Cognella Publishing, (2013)

#### BOOK REVIEWS

Review of “John Tomasi, Free Market Fairness,” *Public Choice* 159:1-2 (2014): 309-311.

Review of “Charles Tilly, Credit and Blame,” with David Schmidtz, *The European Legacy: Toward New Paradigms*, 18:7 (2013): 967.

Review of “Herbert Gintis, The Bounds of Reason: Game Theory and the Unification of the Behavioral Sciences,” *The Journal of Value Inquiry* 45:1 (2011): 85-90.

#### GRANTS

Discovery Project DP170102834

2017-2019

Informal Sanctions and Bad Social Norms

\$231,500

Focus Program Grant \$50,000	2016
New Appointee Research Grant \$5,000	2015
SoPHIS Research Grants	2014, 2015,2016

#### SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

"Democracy Against Populism" *PPE Society Meeting*, New Orleans, USA (2018 Planned)

"Adam Smith, Contractarian," *Deviant Thinking: Early Modern Philosophy and the Enlightenment, Australasian Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy*, University of Sydney, Australia (2017)

"Bargaining and the Social Contract: A Reorientation," *PPE Society Meeting*, New Orleans, USA (2017)

"The Justice of Strategy," *American Philosophical Association, Pacific*, Seattle, USA (2017)

"Honor and Violence," *Southern Economics Association*, Washington, D.C. (2016)

"Evaluating Bad Norms," *Social Philosophy and Policy Conference*, Tucson, Arizona USA (2016)

"Constructivism, Representation, and Stability," *Conference on Contemporary Philosophy in East Asia (CCPEA)*, Seoul, Republic of Korea (2016)

"Paths to Justice: Inconsistent Choice in the Original Position," *Australasian Association of Philosophy* (2016)

"Agreeing to Disagree: The Promise of Contractual Liberalism," *American Philosophical Association (Pacific)*, San Francisco, USA (2016)

"Norms of Honor," The University of Arizona (2016)

"Representation and Democracy," University of Melbourne (2015)

"Self-Ownership and Personal Sovereignty" *Australasian Association of Philosophy*, Macquarie University (2015)

"Self-Ownership: Not Just for Libertarians," Center for Moral, Political and Social Theory, Australian National University (2015)

"Rationality, Uniqueness and the Social Contract," Australian National University (2015)

"Impartiality, Rationality, and the Social Contract" *American Philosophical Association (Pacific)*, Vancouver, Canada (2015)

"Stability and the Price of Compliance," *New Zealand Association for Philosophy*, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand (2014)

"Backing into Self-Ownership," *American Philosophical Association (Pacific)*, San Diego, USA (2014)

"Equality and Justice," University of New Orleans, (2012)

"The Economist as Philosopher," *Southern Economics Association*, New Orleans, (2012)

"Markets and Fairness," *Southern Economics Association*, New Orleans, (2012)

"Rule-Following: Constraints and Objectives," *Southern Economics Association*, Washington D.C. (2011)

"Moral Theory for Adults," Rational Choice Contractarianism: 25 Years After *Morals By Agreement*, York University, Toronto Canada (2011)

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

Dean's Commendation for Early Career Researcher	2015
Fink Prize for the Most Outstanding Graduate Student	2013
University of Arizona Excellence Dissertation Fellowship	2013
Bernard Marcus Fellowship	2012
H.B. Earhart Fellowship	2011
Bernard Marcus Fellowship	2010
Thomas W. Smith Fellowship	2009

TEACHING

*Instructor*

Political Philosophy	Monash University	2014-2017
Democratic Theory	Monash University	2015-2017
Human Rights Theory 1 (w/ Linda Barclay)	Monash University	2017
Human Rights Theory 1 (w/ Robbie Arrell)	Monash University	2015,2016
The Social Contract	University of Arizona	2013
The Ethics & Economics of Wealth Creation	University of Arizona	2009
Hobbes and Spinoza	Monash University	2017
Conventions and Norms (Honors Seminar)	Monash University	2015,2016
Moral Psychology (Honors Seminar)	Monash University	2015
Rationality and Morality (Honors Seminar)	Monash University	2014

*Teaching Assistant*

Environmental Ethics (David Schmidtz)	University of Arizona	2012
Ethics and Entrepreneurship (David Schmidtz)	University of Arizona	2011
Economics & the Human Good (Ryan Hanley)	Columbia University	2011
Principles of Economics (Cathleen Johnson)	University of Arizona	2011
Ethic & Econ of Wealth Creation (Gerald Gaus)	University of Arizona	2008

RESEARCH SUPERVISION

*Masters*

Lucy Mayne (Primary)	Monash University	2016-
James McGuire (Primary)	Monash University	2016-

*Honors*

Jade Popper (Completed)	Monash University	2017
Andrew Belyea-Tate (Completed)	Monash University	2016
Lucy Mayne (Completed)	Monash University	2015

SERVICE

Council for the Humanities of the Netherlands		
Organization for Scientific Research External Reviewer		2017
Organizing Committee AAP Conference		2016
External Reviewer for the American Academy in Berlin		2015
SoPHIS Honors Coordinator, <i>Monash University</i>		2015-
Philosophy Honors Coordinator, <i>Monash University</i>		2014-
Project Editor, <i>Social Philosophy and Policy</i>		2014, 2017
Assistant Editor, <i>Social Philosophy and Policy</i>		2012-2014
Program Assistant, <i>NEH Experimental Philosophy Institute (Arizona)</i>		2012
Director, Conference on <i>The Order of Public Reason (Arizona)</i>		2011
Chair and Co-organizer, <i>Arizona Philosophy Dossier Workshop</i>		2010
Graduate Representative, Master's Program Committee (Arizona)		2010

## MEMBERSHIP

American Philosophical Association  
American Political Science Association  
Australasian Association of Philosophy  
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society  
Southern Economics Association  
Victorian Research Institute for Social Cohesion  
Hume Society

## REFEREE

*Adam Smith Review*  
*American Philosophical Quarterly*  
*American Political Science Review*  
*American Journal of Political Science*  
*Analysis*  
*British Journal of Political Science*  
*Canadian Journal of Philosophy*  
*Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*  
*Ethical Perspectives*  
*Erkenntniss*  
*Hobbes Studies*  
*Journal of Applied Philosophy*  
*Journal of Philosophical Research*  
*Journal of Political Philosophy*  
*Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*  
*Philosophy, Politics, and Economics*  
*Philosophy of Science*  
*Philosophical Studies*  
*Philosophical Quarterly*  
*Polish Journal of Philosophy*  
*Polity*  
*Public Affairs Quarterly*  
*Ratio*  
*Res Publica*  
*Social Theory and Practice*  
*Social Philosophy & Policy*  
*Synthese*