

# KRISTIN M. MICKELSON

## CURRICULUM VITAE

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**Specialization**      Metaphysics (Free Will, Philosophy of Mind)

**Competencies**      Logic, Ethics, Philosophy of Gender, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Education

**Education**      University of Colorado, Boulder  
M.A., Philosophy 2006  
Ph.D., Philosophy 2012  
• Dissertation: *Free Will Fundamentals: Agency, Determinism, and (In)compatibility*

University of Wisconsin, Madison  
B.A., Philosophy 2001  
• Women's Open Crew Team (NCAA Division I) 1997-1998

**Employment**      University of Colorado, Boulder  
*Instructor*, Fall 2023-present  
*Instructor*, Spring 2015  
*Instructor*, Summer Seminar on Will and Desire, July 2011  
*Teaching Assistant*, 2004-2009

University of Minnesota, Morris  
*Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy*, 2012-2016; 2019-2021; 2026

University of Gothenburg, Sweden  
*Postdoctoral Research Fellow* 2016-2018 in the Lund-Gothenburg Responsibility Project and the Department of Philosophy, Linguistics, and Theory of Knowledge (FLoV).

**Languages**      English (Native); Swedish, Spanish (ILR level 2 proficiency)

## **Courses Taught**

***Lecturer*      University of Colorado, Boulder**

Critical Thinking (Introduction to Formal Logic)  
Ethics  
Knowledge, Mind, & Reality (Introduction to Metaphysics & Epistemology)  
Philosophy & Gender (Cross-listed with Women & Gender Studies)  
Philosophy & Religion  
Reading, Writing, & Reasoning

**University of Minnesota, Morris**

Logic for the Liberal Arts, An Intellectual Community Course (Introduction to the liberal arts via interdisciplinary critical thinking)  
How to Think About Weird Things; Intellectual Community Course (An introduction to the liberal arts via philosophy of science; critical thinking)  
Introduction to Philosophy  
Introduction to Symbolic Logic  
Philosophy of Science  
Philosophy of Religion  
Free Will  
Moral Issues & Theories (Advanced)  
Metaphysics & Philosophy of Language (Advanced/Senior Seminar)

***Assistant*      University of Colorado, Boulder**

Philosophy of Science (Professor: Robert Rupert)  
Ethics (Professor: Claudia Mills)  
Ethics (Professor: Michael Tooley)  
Ancient Philosophy (Professor: Mitzi Lee)  
Introduction to Philosophy (Team-taught)

## Student Evaluations

### Logic for the Liberal Arts (Introductory; UMM 2021)

- “The way of teaching that she [Dr. Mickelson] did during the semester was a great way to learn.”
- “She [Dr. Mickelson] was strict with her rules and they were fair.”
- “[Dr. Mickelson] was very passionate about what she was teaching and showed how the lessons she gave are able to be applied in real life. Although some outlooks were kind of pessimistic, the way she taught us overall was engaging and fun.”

### Symbolic Logic (Introductory; UMM 2021)

- “Kristin is very flexible and is willing to change her course on the fly to accommodate students. If the majority of the class didn’t understand something, Kristin is always willing to put aside plans for the day to help.”
- “She [Dr. Mickelson] did a good job of shifting things around, for example if we didn't understand something she might scrap her lesson plan for the day and did [sic.] something else so we could spend more time on the thing we were struggling on.”
- “Dr. Mickelson had us complete short, daily quizzes which allowed us to practice the content we learned over and over again. This repetition ended up being super helpful in learning symbolic logic. She compared this strategy to practicing a new language and logic really is like that.”

### Philosophy And Religion (Introductory; CU-Boulder, 2015)

- “One of the best professors I’ve had at CU yet.”
- “Professor Mickelson is one of the best instructors I’ve had and has given me a huge interest in this topic.”
- “Professor [Mickelson] highly challenged me in this course and provided me with the ability to expand on my way of thinking. I was not prepared for the overall challenge of this course, but nonetheless learned a lot and recommend it to A-students.”

### How to Think About Weird Things (Introductory; UMM, 2013)

- “I loved this class!”
- “She [Dr. Mickelson] was genuinely interested in having us understand the material and enjoyed teaching.”
- “She [Dr. Mickelson] talked with me outside of class and helped show me different perspectives and ways to think about an idea.”

## Publications

### Books (Edited Volumes)

1. *A Companion to Free Will*, co-edited by Joseph Campbell, Kristin M. Mickelson, and V. Alan White, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (2023).

### Refereed Journal Articles (Non-invited)

2. "The Zygote Argument Is Still Invalid—So What?," *Philosophia* 49 (2021): 705-722.
3. "The Zygote Argument is Invalid—Now What?," *Philosophical Studies* 172.11 (2015): 2911-2929.
4. "A Critique of Vihvelin's Three-fold Classification," *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 45.1 (2015):85-99.
5. "The Soft-Line Solution to Pereboom's Four-Case Argument," *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 88.4 (2010): 595-617.

### Refereed Journal Articles (Invited)

6. "The Problem of Free Will and Determinism: An Abductive Approach," *Social Philosophy & Policy* (Moral Responsibility: The Next Generation), 36.1 (2019): 154-172.
7. "Free Will, Self-Creation, and The Paradox of Moral Luck," *Midwest Studies in Philosophy: Special Issue on Moral Luck*, 43.1 (2019): 224-256.\*  
\*Mentioned in Peter Coy's *New York Times* essay "When Being Good Is Just a Matter of Being Lucky" (2023)

### Reference Works (Invited)

8. "Determinism," contribution to the *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, eds. James Fieser and Bradley Dowden, ISSN 2161-0002 <https://www.iep.utm.edu/> (in progress).
9. "Introduction, *Wiley Companion to Free Will*," (lead author; co-authors: Joseph Campbell and V. Alan White), chapter in the Wiley-Blackwell *Companion to Free Will*, ed. Joseph Campbell, Kristin M. Mickelson, and V. Alan White, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (2023): 1-19.
10. "(In)compatibilism," chapter in the Wiley-Blackwell *Companion to Free Will*, ed. Joseph Campbell, Kristin M. Mickelson, and V. Alan White, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (2023): 58-83.
11. "The Manipulation Argument," chapter in the *Routledge Companion to Free Will*, eds. Joshua Timpe, Meghan Griffith, and Neil Levy. Routledge (2017): 166-178.

### Book Reviews (Invited)

12. Review of *Just Deserts: Debating Free Will* by Daniel Dennett and Gregg Caruso, in the *International Journal of Philosophical Studies* 29.3 (2021): 408-412.

## Honorable Mentions

### 1. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy:

The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (SEP) is widely regarded as the most authoritative free online philosophy reference in the English-speaking world. I have multiple articles cited in two distinct entries related to free will and moral responsibility.

- Works cited in "Arguments for Incompatibilism" by Kadri Vihvelin:
  - a. "The Soft-Line Solution to Pereboom's Four-Case Argument", *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*.
  - b. "A Critique of Vihvelin's Three-Fold Classification", *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*.
  - c. "The Zygote Argument is Invalid: Now What?", *Philosophical Studies*.
- Work cited in "Moral Responsibility" by Mathew Talbert:
  - a. "The Soft-Line Solution to Pereboom's Four-Case Argument", *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*.

### 2. *The New York Times:*

- Work cited in "When Being Good is Just a Matter of Being Lucky" by Peter Coy:  
"Free Will, Self-Creation, and the Paradox of Moral Luck", *Midwest Studies in Philosophy*.

## Presentations

### Conferences (Refereed, Non-invited)

1. "The (In)compatibilism Stalemate: To Make Progress, Go Back to Metaphysics," Presentation at the Free Will and Methodology Conference, KU Leuven (Belgium) June 2019.
2. "Humean Compatibilism, Determinism, and the Consequence Argument," Colloquium presentation at the 2019 Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Canada), April 2019.
3. "The End of Incompatibilism," Gothenburg Responsibility Conference, University of Gothenburg (Sweden), August 2016.
4. "The Meta-manipulation Argument," Poster at the Sixth Annual Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (RoME), University of Colorado-Boulder (CO, USA), August 2013.
5. "What is 'Incompatibilism'?" Presentation at the Annual meeting of the Society of Exact Philosophy, University of Montreal (Canada), May 2013
6. "The Soft-Line Solution to Pereboom's Four-Case Argument," Presentation at the Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference, University of Idaho (ID, USA), March 2006.

Colloquium/Conferences/Workshops (Invited, Non-refereed)

1. "Motte-and-Bailey Incompatibilism," Presentation (via Zoom) for the Early Career Researcher Workshop (ECRW), October 22, 2023.
2. "Paradigm Problems: Are there downsides of talking about free will using jargon from a research paradigm you reject?" Presentation (via Zoom) for the Agency and Responsibility Research Group (AARG), organized by Thomas Nadelhoffer; <https://sites.google.com/view/arrg/future-talks>, October 20, 2022.
3. "Correlations and Explanations," Presentation at the 3rd annual Workshop on Agency in the Mountains (CO, USA), February 2019.
4. "Mastering the Manipulation Argument," Presentation at the Department of Philosophy Colloquium, Florida State University (FL, USA), October 2018.
5. "Motte-and-Bailey Incompatibilism," Presentation to the Department of Philosophy, University of Wisconsin (WI, USA), October 2018.
6. "Motte-and-Bailey Incompatibilism," Presentation at the DFG Inductive Metaphysics Research Group's International Workshop on Free Will and Determinism, University of Cologne (Germany), October 2018. <https://indmet.weebly.com/freedom-and-determinism.html>
7. "A Better Basic Argument," Presentation at the Gothenburg-Lund Responsibility Project Workshop: Libertarian Agency and Metaphysics: Themes from Randolph Clarke, Lund University (Sweden), June 2018.
8. "The Problem of Free Will and Determinism: An Abductive Approach," Presentation at the Practical Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Gothenburg (Sweden), May 2018.
9. "The Master Multiple-Case Argument," Presentation at the Responsibility: The Next Generation Conference, University of Arizona (AZ, USA), December 2017.
10. "Redefining Determinism," Presentation to the Department of Philosophy, University of Western Washington (WA, USA), April 2017.
11. "Free Will and the Problems of Determinism," Presentation to the Department of Philosophy, University of Cape Town (South Africa), April 2017.
12. "Against Arbitrary Battle Lines: A historical critique of the contemporary free-will debate," Presentation at the Linköping University Department of Philosophy, Linköping University (Sweden), March 2017.
13. Book Symposium Panelist on Joseph Campbell's *Free Will* (2010), Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (CA, USA), April 2014.
14. "Mastering the Manipulation Argument," Presentation at A Workshop on Free Will (other invited speakers: Carolina Sartorio, Randolph Clarke, Neil Levy, Eric Barnes), Southern Methodist University (TX, USA), February 2013.

Seminars/Workshops (Home Department)

15. "(In)compatibilism: Understanding the Problem of Free Will and Determinism," Presentation at the Department of Philosophy Works-in-Progress Series, University of Minnesota-Morris, September 2019.
16. "Humean laws and the Consequence Argument," Presentation at the Theoretical Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Gothenburg (Sweden), October 2018.
17. "An Abductive Approach to the Problems of Free will and Determinism," Presentation at the Lund/Gothenburg Responsibility Project Workshop on Free Will and Moral Luck, University of Gothenburg (Sweden), October 2018.
18. "The Source Condition on Free Will: Where the Problems of Causal and Constitutive Luck Meet," Presentation at the Lund/Gothenburg Responsibility Project Workshop on Free Will and Moral Luck, University of Gothenburg (Sweden), October 2018.
19. "(In)compatibilism," Presentation at Practical Philosophy and Political Theory Research Seminar, University of Gothenburg (Sweden), September 2018.
20. "Humean-law Compatibilism," Presentation at the Randolph Clarke Free-will Workshop, University of Gothenburg (Sweden), with guest speaker Randolph Clarke, June 2018
21. "Making Metaphysical Sense of the Logical Incompatibility of Free Will and Determinism," Presentation to the Theoretical Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Gothenburg (Sweden) February 2017.
22. "The Problems of Free Will and Determinism," Presentation to the Practical Philosophy and Political Theory Research Seminar, University of Gothenburg (Sweden), December 2016.
23. "Incompatibilism Without Impossible Worlds," Presentation at the Midwest Philosophy Colloquium Workshop on Free Will and Moral Responsibility, with featured guests Ishtiyaque Haji and Michael McKenna, University of Minnesota-Morris (MN, USA), September 2016.
24. "The Zygote Argument Is Invalid," Presentation on Alfred Mele's "Manipulation, Moral Responsibility, and Bullet Biting," presentation at the *Workshop on The Manipulation Argument*, Central European University (Hungary);  
<https://philosophy.ceu.edu/events/2012-06-07/workshop-manipulation-argument>

Outreach and Other Public Presentations

25. "Incompatibilism and Impossibilism," Guest speaker on Episode 32 of *The Free Will Show* podcast, Professors of Philosophy Taylor Cyr and Matt Flummer (co-hosts), January 2022: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/episode-32-incompatibilism-and-impossibilism/id1525456786?i=1000548807743>
26. "The Manipulation Argument as Diagnostic Tool: Finding your place in the free-will debate," Presentation to the Linköping Philosophical Society (Sweden), March 2017.
27. "The Traditional Problem of Free Will and Determinism," Presentation at the "FLoV-dagen" Open House hosted by the Dept. of Philosophy (FLoV), University of Gothenburg (Sweden), 2017.

28. "Did My Microbiome Make Me Do It?", Speaker & Panelist at the University of Minnesota-Morris Philosophy and Biology Colloquium (an interdisciplinary, public-outreach colloquium), along with philosopher Alan Love and evolutionary ecologist Michael Travisano (MN, USA), February 2016.
29. Featured Author, Featured Authors Series on the Flickers of Freedom blog, ([http://philosophycommons.typepad.com/flickers\\_of\\_freedom/](http://philosophycommons.typepad.com/flickers_of_freedom/)), June 2014.

**Grants      University of Minnesota, Morris:**

Faculty Out-of-State Travel Grant (\$650), Spring 2016  
Faculty International Research Enhancement Grant (\$1200), Spring 2016  
Faculty Research Enhancement Grant (\$400), Spring 2014  
Faculty Research Enhancement Grant (\$400), Fall 2013  
Faculty Research Enhancement Grant (\$400), Spring 2013  
Faculty Research Enhancement Grant (\$400), Fall 2012  
Faculty Research Enhancement Grant (\$300), Spring 2012

**Awards      University of Colorado, Boulder:**

Lowe Fellowship (\$23,000), 2010-2011  
Jentzsch Prize (\$300), Best philosophy graduate student essay: 2007-2008  
Dissertation Fellowship (\$7,500), Fall 2008  
Eaton Travel Grant (\$400), 2007

**Service      Community Outreach**

Volunteer Organizer & Presenter, "FLoV-dagen" Public-facing Open House hosted by the Dept. of Philosophy (FLoV), University of Gothenburg (Sweden), 2017 & 2018  
Volunteer, Experience Morris Days (Admissions Office Event), 2016  
Volunteer, Academic Program Open House (Admissions Office Event), 2016  
Guest Speaker, University of Minnesota-Morris Philosophy Club, 2011  
Counselor, Summer Seminar on History of Philosophy, July 2008  
Counselor, Summer Philosophy Institute of Colorado (SPICO), 2005  
Instructor, Philosophy Outreach Program of Colorado (POPCO), 2004-2008

**Conference/Workshop Co-Organizer:**

LGRP Workshop on Free Will and Moral Luck (guests Derk Pereboom, Patrick Todd, David Enoch, Benjmain Vilhauer) 2018  
LGRP Workshop: Themes from Clarke (guest Randolph Clarke) 2018  
LGRP Workshop: Themes from Smilansky (guest Saul Smilansky), 2018

LGRP Workshop on Responsibility, Conversation, and Communication  
(guest Michael McKenna), 2017  
Rocky Mountain Philosophy Graduate Conference (ft. Jaegwon Kim), 2007

**Refereeing**

*Australasian Journal of Philosophy*  
*Canadian Journal of Philosophy*  
*European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*  
*International Journal of Philosophical Studies*  
*Inquiry*  
*Mind*  
*Philosophia*  
*Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*  
*Philosophical Studies*  
*Philosophical Quarterly*  
*Southern Journal of Philosophy*  
*Thought*

## References

### *Research References:*

#### **Joseph Campbell**

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#### **Neil Levy**

Professor of Philosophy  
Centre for Agency, Values and Ethics  
(CAVE), Macquarie University, Australia  
& Senior Research Fellow  
Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics  
University of Oxford, UK  
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#### **Michael McKenna**

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#### **Christian Munthe**

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of Science (FLoV), Centre for antibiotic  
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