

Robert H. Bass
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Adjunct Full Professor
University of North Carolina, Pembroke

AOS: Ethics
Decision and Game Theory
Animal Ethics
Philosophy of Religion

AOC: Political Philosophy
Environmental Ethics
Business Ethics

Education

- ◆ Ph.D. in Applied Philosophy: “Towards a Constructivist Eudaemonism,” directed by Edward F. McClennen. Bowling Green State University, 2004.
- ◆ M.A. in Applied Philosophy, Bowling Green State University, 1996.
- ◆ B.A. in Philosophy, Wofford College, 1979.

Positions Held

- ◆ 2010-present Adjunct Full Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of North Carolina-Pembroke, Pembroke, NC
- ◆ 2011-present Adjunct Professor, Strayer University
- ◆ 2012-present Associate Faculty, Doctoral Program in Organizational Development and Leadership, Department of Advanced Management Studies, University of Arizona Global Campus
- ◆ 2022-present Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Liberal Arts, Sciences & Health Sciences, SUNY Sullivan, Loch Sheldrake, NY
- ◆ 2023-present Adjunct Professor, Southern New Hampshire University
- ◆ 2006-2010 Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC
- ◆ 2001-2006 Visiting Assistant Professor, Visiting Lecturer, Adjunct Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL

Scholarly Work

2022 *Journal of Value Inquiry* Prize:

“Divine Command Theory without a Divine Commander,” awarded by the American Philosophical Association, 2022. *Journal of Value Inquiry*.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10790-022-09923-4>

Book (edited):

Readings on the Ultimate Questions, 3rd Edition, coedited with Nils Ch. Rauhut, Prentice-Hall, 2010.

Sections in Edited Books:

“The Benefit of Regan’s Doubt: Moral Caution and the Ethics of Eating,” in *The Moral Rights of Animals*, edited by Mylan Engel and Gary Comstock, Lexington Books, 2016.

“Lives in the Balance: Utilitarianism and Animal Research,” in *The Ethics of Animal Research: In Theory and Practice*, edited by Jeremy Garrett, Basic Bioethics Series, MIT Press, 2012.

“Reflective Equilibrium,” in *Readings on the Ultimate Questions, 3rd Edition*, edited by Nils Ch. Rauhut and Robert H. Bass, Prentice-Hall, 2010.

Peer-Reviewed Articles:

- “Evil is still evidence: Comment on Almeida,” in *Religious Studies* (2023).
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0034412523000483>
- “Divine Command Theory without a Divine Commander,” in *Journal of Value Inquiry* (2023).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10790-022-09923-4>.
- “Inscrutable Evils: Still Numerous, Still Relevant,” in *International Journal of Philosophy and Theology*, 75 (4), 2014: 379–84. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21692327.2015.1008024>.
- “Many Inscrutable Evils,” in *Ars Disputandi* [<http://www.ArsDisputandi.org>], 11 (2011), 118–132.
- “Moral Lore and the Ethics of Eating,” in *Think*, 10, no. 29, Autumn 2011, 83-90.
- “Omniscience and the Identification Problem,” in *Florida Philosophical Review*, 7, no. 1, Summer 2007, 78-91, available at http://philosophy.ucf.edu/fpr/files/FPR-7_1.pdf.
- “Undermining Indirect Duty Theories,” in *Between the Species*, 13, no. 6, August 2006,
<http://digitalcommons.calpoly.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1031&context=bts>.
- “Pure Contractarianism: Promise, Problems, Prospects,” in *Journal of Value Inquiry*, 34, no. 2-3 (September 2000), 319-332.

Reviews:

- “Book Review: David Schmidtz, *The Elements of Justice*,” *The Journal of Value Inquiry* 46, no. 2, 2012, 255–257, DOI: 10.1007/s10790-012-9323-3.
- “Book Review: Tibor Machan, *Ayn Rand*” in *Journal of Libertarian Studies*, 20, No. 2, Spring 2006, 95-101.
- “Book Review: Mark Bernstein, *Without a Tear: Our Tragic Relationship with Animals*” in *Journal of Value Inquiry*, 39, No. 2, June 2005, 273-277.
- “Book Review: Wendy McElroy, *The Debates of Liberty: An Overview of Individualist Anarchism, 1881-1908*” in *Journal of Libertarian Studies*, 19, No. 3, Summer 2005, 99-102.

Papers and Presentations at National or International Conferences:

- “What Can One Person Do? Causal Impotence and Dietary Choice,” Invited Presentation, Animal Ethics Study Group, Yale University, New Haven, CT, April 3, 2014.
- “Pascal in the Kitchen: Betting on the Ethics of Eating,” Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World, Helen, GA, July 25, 2012.
- “The Benefit of Regan’s Doubt,” Invited Presentation for Tom Regan: A Celebration, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, April 16, 2011.
- “Knowledge Without Truth?” American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Chicago, IL, February 20, 2009.
- “Quotidian Medical Epistemology,” 35th Value Inquiry Conference, The College of New Jersey, Ewing, New Jersey, April 5, 2008.
- “Small Contributions,” 34th Value Inquiry Conference, Adrian College, Adrian, MI, April 13, 2007.
- “Indirect Duty Theories: Even if They’re Right, They’re Wrong,” Society for the Study of Ethics and Animals, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Washington, DC, December 27, 2006.
- “Comments on Aaron Simmons’ ‘A Critique of Warren’s Weak Animal Rights View,’” Society for the Study of Ethics and Animals, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, New York, NY, December 28, 2005.
- “Maximizing, Satisficing and the Normative Distinction Between Means and Ends,” 32nd Value Inquiry Conference, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, April 8, 2005.
- “Restoration Projects and the Tragedy of the Commons,” Society for Ecological Restoration conference, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, November 1997.

Papers and Presentations at Regional Conferences:

- “Requirement and Value,” North Carolina Philosophical Society, Asheville, NC, March 27-28, 2020. (Accepted for presentation; conference cancelled due to Covid-19.)
- “God, the Kalām Argument, and How to Traverse an Actual Infinite,” North Carolina Philosophical Society, Boone, NC, February 27, 2016.
- “Modal Evil and Divine Necessity,” North Carolina Philosophical Society, Raleigh, NC, February 28, 2015.
- “Knowledge Without Truth?” North Carolina Philosophical Society, Boone, NC, February 26, 2011.
- “Joyce as a Moral Anatomist,” South Carolina Society for Philosophy Conference (Joint Meeting with the North Carolina Philosophical Society), University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, February 29, 2008.
- “Sunk Costs,” South Carolina Society for Philosophy Conference, Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC, February 24, 2007.
- “The Impossibility of Omniscience,” Florida Philosophical Association Conference, Cocoa Beach, FL, November 11, 2005.

Papers and Presentations at Local Colloquia:

- “Pascal in the Kitchen: Betting on the Ethics of Eating,” Invited Presentation, Ethics Awareness Week, Young Harris College, Young Harris, GA, February 23, 2011.
- “Pascal in the Kitchen: Betting on the Ethics of Eating,” Invited Presentation, Young Harris College, Young Harris, GA, November 16, 2010.
- “Indirect Duty Theories: Even if They’re Right, They’re Wrong,” Department of Philosophy Colloquium, Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC, October 31, 2006.
- “Deciding Where to Meet for Dinner: Simple Problems and Joint Intentionality,” Department of Philosophy Colloquium, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL, March 30, 2005.
- “Chalmers and the Self-Knowledge Problem,” Department of Philosophy Colloquium, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, March 2000.

Teaching Experience

I have broad teaching experience, including critical thinking, logic, introduction to philosophy, ethics, business ethics, contemporary moral issues, bioethics, and environmental ethics, upper-level seminars in ethical theory, and doctoral courses in organizational leadership. I also have many years of experience with distance learning, and regularly make use of on-line resources and teaching tools. Syllabi and other teaching materials are available upon request.

Professional Affiliations

American Philosophical Association
 American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy
 Association for Political Theory
 International Society for Environmental Ethics
 North Carolina Philosophical Society
 Society for Philosophy and Animal Minds
 Society for the Study of Ethics and Animals
European Encyclopedia of Animal Welfare Advisory Board

Professional Service

Public Talks:

- “Moral Risk and Moral Lore,” Invited Presentation, Animal Ethics Study Group, Yale University, New Haven, CT, April 3, 2014.
- “Understanding Animal Minds,” Invited Presentation, Department of Philosophy, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC, February 8, 2012.
- “Pascal in the Kitchen,” Philosophy Club, Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC, April 9, 2010.
- “Stories About Animals: What They're Like, Why They Matter,” Celebration of Inquiry, Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC, February 12, 2009.
- “Animal Minds, Animal Rights,” for Friends of Philosophy, Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC, November 18, 2008.
- “Understanding Animal Minds,” Conway Public Library, Conway, SC, May 14, 2008.
- “Understanding Animal Minds,” Board of Visitors Community Dialogue Series, Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC, February 20, 2008.
- “Endangered Minds,” Celebration of Inquiry, Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC, February 14, 2008.
- “Morality and Animal Research: Lives in the Balance,” Philosophy Club, Coastal Carolina University, March 29 and September 20, 2007.
- “Is ‘Doin’ What Comes Naturally’ Ethical?” with Nils Rauhut, for Tea and Ethics, Jackson Ethics Center, Coastal Carolina University, September 14 and 28, 2006.
- “What Meat-Eating is Good For,” for Diversity Program, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, Florida, November 14, 2005.
- “Why Your Religious Beliefs Are Probably Mistaken,” for Philosophy Slam, Jacksonville, Florida, October 2002.
- “Christianity and Politics,” for Food for Thought, a University of North Florida student group, Jacksonville, Florida, February 2002.

Chair:

- Session on Theodicy, South Carolina Society for Philosophy Conference, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, February 29, 2008.
- Session on Clinical Ethics, 32nd Value Inquiry Conference, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, April 9, 2005.

Referee:

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| <i>American Philosophical Quarterly</i> | <i>Religious Studies</i> |
| <i>Between the Species</i> | <i>Social Theory and Practice</i> |
| <i>Ethical Theory and Moral Practice</i> | Bridgepoint Education |
| <i>Ethics, Policy & Environment</i> | Pearson Higher Education |
| <i>Journal of Value Inquiry</i> | Simon and Schuster |
| <i>Philosophy, Ethics and Humanities in Medicine</i> | Springer |

Other Professional Service:

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| 2006-2009 | Departmental Library Representative |
| 2007-2009 | Advisor to Phi Sigma Tau chapter, National Philosophy Honor Society |
| 2007-2008 | Member, Religious Studies Search Committee (Search successfully completed in 2008) |
| 2007-2008 | Member, Committee on Revising the Philosophy Major |
| 2008-2009 | Member, Religious Studies Search Committee (Search suspended) |
| 2007-2009 | Member, Medical Professions Advisory Committee |

Professional References

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 Policy and Law
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