ROBERT MARK SIMPSON

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CAREER AND EDUCATION

University College London, Associate Professor of Philosophy 2020-
University College London, Lecturer in Philosophy 2018-20
Monash University, Lecturer in Philosophy 2013-17
University of Chicago, Visiting Assistant Professor of Law 2015
University of Oxford, D.Phil in Philosophy 2009-13
Monash University, MA 2007-08, BA Honours 2006, BSc 2000-03

SCHOLARLY ARTICLES

"Law as Counterspeech", forthcoming in *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* // with Anjalee de Silva

"Counterspeech", forthcoming in *Philosophy Compass* // with Bianca Cepollaro and Maxime Lepoutre

"Should we unbundle free speech and press freedom?", forthcoming in Carl Fox and Joe Saunders (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Media Ethics* // with Damien Storey

"Disagreement and free speech", forthcoming in Maria Baghramian, Adam Carter, and Richard Rowland (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Disagreement* // with Sebastian Bishop

"The conversational character of oppression", *Australasian Philosophical Review* 5/2 (2022): 160-69

"The ethics of quitting social media", in Carissa Véliz (Ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Digital Ethics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022)

"Reconciling regulation with scientific autonomy in dual-use research", *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 47/1 (2022): 72-94 // with Nicholas G. Evans and Michael J. Selgelid

"Lost, enfeebled, and deprived of its vital effect: Mill's exaggerated view of the relation between conflict and vitality", *Aristotelian Society Supplementary Volume* 95/1 (2021): 97-114

"Epistemic permissivism and reasonable pluralism", in Michael Hannon and Jeroen de Ridder (Eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Political Epistemology* (New York: Routledge, 2021) // with Richard Rowland

"Language and legitimation", in Rachel Sterken and Justin Khoo (Eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Social and Political Philosophy of Language* (New York: Routledge, 2021): 345-61

"Minimalism, determinacy, and human rights", *Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence* 34/1 (2021): 149-69

"Norms of inquiry, student-led learning, and epistemic paternalism", in Jonathan Matheson and Kirk Lougheed (Eds.), *Epistemic Autonomy* (New York: Routledge, 2021): 95-112

"The relation between academic freedom and free speech", *Ethics* 130/3 (2020): 287-319

"The big shill", *Ratio* 33/4 (2020): 269-80 // with Eliot Michaelson

"Political correctness gone viral", in Carl Fox and Joe Saunders (Eds.), *Media Ethics, Free Speech, and the Requirements of Democracy* (New York: Routledge, 2019) // with Waleed Aly

"Search engines and free speech coverage", in Susan J. Brison and Katharine Gelber (Eds.), *Free Speech in the Digital Age* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019) // with Heather M. Whitney

"Won't somebody please think of the children? Hate speech, harm, and childhood", *Law and Philosophy* 38/1 (2019): 79-108

"Regulating offense, nurturing offense", *Politics, Philosophy, and Economics* 17/3 (2018): 235-56

"No platforming", in Jennifer Lackey (Ed.), *Academic Freedom* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018) // with Amia Srinivasan

"Permissivism and the arbitrariness objection", *Episteme* 14/4 (2017): 519-38

"Tolerating hate in the name of democracy", *Modern Law Review* 80/4 (2017): 746-65 // with Amanda R. Greene

"Indirect epistemic reasons and religious belief", *Religious Studies* 53/2 (2017): 151-69 // with Kirk Lougheed

"Defining 'speech': subtraction, addition, and division", *Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence* 29/2 (2016): 457-94

"Indoctrination anxiety and the etiology of belief", *Synthese* 193/10 (2016): 3079-98 // with Joshua DiPaolo

"Climate change, cooperation, and moral bioenhancement", *Journal of Medical Ethics* 42 (2016): 742-47 // with Toby Handfield and Pei-hua Huang

"Dehumanization: its operations and origins", *Journal of Law and Biosciences* 3/1 (2015): 178-84

"Super soldiers and technological asymmetry", in Jai Galliott and Mianna Lotz (Eds.), *Super Soldiers: Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications* (Farnum: Ashgate, 2015)

"Nanotechnologically enhanced combat systems: the downside of invulnerability", in Bert Gordijn and Anthony Mark Cutter (Eds.), *In Pursuit of Nanoethics* (Dordrecht: Springer Science and Business Media, 2014) // with Robert Sparrow

"Life in overabundance: Agar on life-extension and the fear of death", *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 17/2 (2014): 223-36 // with Aveek Bhattacharya

"Intellectual agency and responsibility for belief in free speech theory", *Legal Theory* 19/3 (2013): 307-30

"Epistemic peerhood and the epistemology of disagreement", *Philosophical Studies* 164/2 (2013): 561-77

"Dignity, harm, and hate speech", *Law and Philosophy* 32/6 (2013): 701-28

"Unringing the bell: McGowan on oppressive speech and the asymmetric pliability of conversation", *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 91/3 (2013): 555-75

"Moral antitheodicy: prospects and problems", *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 65/1 (2009): 153-69

"Some moral critique of theodicy is misplaced, but not all", *Religious Studies* 45/3 (2009): 339-46

"Avoiding the afterlife: victims of suffering and the argument from usefulness", *Forum Philosophicum* 13/2 (2008): 437-55

OTHER WRITING

OP-ED: "With friends like these, free speech doesn't need enemies", *Justice Everywhere*, 18th January 2021 [*link*]

OP-ED: "When is it ethical to vote for the lesser of two evils?", *Psyche*, 28th October 2020 [*link*]

LONG-READ: "Speaking freely, thinking aloud, and embarrassing yourself on social media", *ABC Religion & Ethics*, 7th May 2020 [*link*]

BLOG: "Supply chains, disaster-mitigation, and state manufacturing", *Justice Everywhere*, 6th April 2020 [*link*]

OP-ED: "How the rhetoric of weaponisation is undermining liberal ideals", *The New Statesman*, 11th February 2020 [*link*]

REVIEW: "The varieties of religious expedience", review of *Interior States* by Megan O'Gieblyn, *The New Rambler Review*. 5th February 2020 [*link*]

REVIEW: *Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights*, Edited by Rowan Cruft, S. Matthew Liao, and Massimo Renzo, *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 16/4 (2019): 517-20 [*link*]

REVIEW: *Speak Freely: Why Universities Must Defend Free Speech*, by Keith E. Whittington, *Times Literary Supplement*, 14th May 2019 [*link*]

BLOG: "Universities and democratic legitimacy", *Justice Everywhere*, 10th/12th June 2019 [*link*]

LONG-READ: "C. S. Lewis's demons", *ABC Religion & Ethics*, 1st May 2018 [*link*]

OP-ED: "Free speech is a blunt instrument; let's break it up", *Aeon*, Friday 31st March 2017 [*link*]

BLOG: "The origin of belief", *The Forum*, 15th August 2016; // with Josh DiPaolo [*link*]

BLOG: "Making humans morally better won't fix climate change", *JME Blog*, 25th August 2016 [*link*]

REVIEW: "Moral renegades", review of *Strangers Drowning* by Larissa MacFarquhar and *Doing Good Better* by William MacAskill", *The New Rambler Review*, 12th July 2016 [*link*]

REVIEW: Speech *Matters: Lying, Morality, and the Law* by Seana Shiffrin, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, 28th April 2015 [*link*]

BLOG: "Prevent harm, allow offence?", *The Free Speech Debate*, 8th January 2013 [*link*]

BOOK PROJECT

I am currently working on a book. Its working title is *Individuation: The Arts, Free Speech, and Experiments in Living*. This work will examine the position of the arts in free speech. I will argue that we need to appeal to a relatively neglected ideal from the liberal tradition – namely, the ideal of 'experiments in living' – in order to account for the central position that the arts have occupied in the law and politics of free speech. I am happy to provide a copy of the book proposal on request.

GRANTS, AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS

Australian Research Council; Discovery Project Grant, on "Governing the Knowledge Commons", International Partner Investigator (administering institution: Monash University), 2019-21

Society for Applied Philosophy; Conference Grant Scheme, 2017

The Spencer Foundation; Research Grant on Hate Speech and Education, 2015-16

St. Louis University / Templeton Foundation; Research Cluster Group Grant for Project on the Philosophy and Theology of Intellectual Humility, 2014-2015

Monash University Faculty of Arts; Emerging Research Excellence Fellowship, 2014

Monash University, School of Philosophy and History; Research Grant on 'Intrinsic Valuation', 2013-14

Princeton University Centre for Human Values; Postdoctoral fellowship in Public Policy, 2013-16, declined position in order to take up continuing lectureship at Monash University

Monash University Faculty of Arts; New Appointees Research Grant, 2013

Oxford University Faculty of Philosophy; Faculty Doctoral Scholarship, 2009-12

Somerville College, Oxford; Graduate Doctoral Scholarship in Philosophy, 2009-12

Monash University Faculty of Arts; Postgraduate Publications Award, 2008-09

Australian Department of Education and Training; Australian Postgraduate Award, 2007-08

Monash University Faculty of Arts; Honours Merit Scholarship, 2006

RESEARCH TALKS (SELECTED)

London Aesthetics Forum: "Experiments in Living, Commercial Entertainment, and Free Speech" November 2021

Invited Symposiast, Joint Session of the Mind Association and the Aristotelian Society: "Mill's Exaggerated View of the Relation Between Conflict and Vitality, July 2021

University of Oxford: Nuffield Political Theory Workshop, "Heckling, Free Speech, and Free Association", May 2021

University of Wisconsin, Madison: First Amendment Conference (Online), Discussion Panellist, April 2021

University of Bristol: Law Research Seminar Series, "The Half-Baked Idea of a University: Notes on the EHRC's 2019 Guidelines on Freedom of Expression for Higher Education Providers", March 2021

University of Oxford: Conference on Themes in the Work of Leslie Green (Online), "The Understanding Censor, March 2021

Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS), Berlin: Workshop on Modelling Oppressive Speech and Norms (Online), "The Conversational Character of Oppression", January 2021

Hiroshima Institute of Technology: "Free Speech and the Marketplace of Ideas in the 21st Century", Keynote Lecture at the launch of new program in the humanities and technology, February 2020

Australian Catholic University: Workshop on "Building Better Epistemic Networks", "The Expertise Problem and Higher Education Governance", September 2019

University College London: Yale / UCL Legal Symposium, "The Relation Between Free Speech and Academic Freedom", June 2019

University of Oxford: Conference on The Ethics and Politics of Online Interaction, "Freedom of Thought and the Regulation of Speech on Social Media" // with Erin Nash, May 2019

Durham University: Keynote Talk at Graduate Conference on Human Rights, "Minimalism and Determinacy in Human Rights", May 2019

University of Oxford: Moral Philosophy Seminar, "What is Legitimation?", February

University of Oxford: Jurisprudence Discussion Group, "The Relation Between Free Speech and Academic Freedom", November 2018

University of Tartu: Keynote Talk at Graduate Conference on "The Ethics of Conduct in Debate", "Silencing Milo: On the Mission and Culture of a University", October 2018

University of Warwick: Centre for Ethics, Law & Public Affairs Workshop, "The Relation between Academic Freedom and Free Speech", October 2018

San Raffaele University, Milan: Department of Philosophy, "Scorekeeping and Social Theory", February 2018

National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow: Department of Philosophy Seminar Series, "A Third Concept of Intrinsic Valuation", June 2017

University of Sydney: Department of Philosophy Seminar, "What is Legitimation?", May 2017

University of Auckland: Department of Philosophy Seminar, What is Legitimation?", March 2017

Leeds Interdisciplinary Centre for Applied Ethics: Conference on Free Speech and Democracy, "Political Correctness Gone Viral", August 2016

Yale University: Yale Free Speech Scholar's Conference, "Search Engines and Free Speech Coverage", April 2016

American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division: Symposium on Human Rights, San Francisco, "Minimalism and Determinacy in Human Rights", April 2016

Dartmouth College: Workshop on Global Expressive Rights, "Defining Speech: The Subtractive v. Additive Approach", April 2015

The University of Chicago: Law and Philosophy Workshop, "Defining Speech: The Subtractive v. Additive Approach", April 2015

Northwestern University: Practical Philosophy Workshop, "Defining Speech: The Subtractive v. Additive Approach", April 2015

St. Louis University: Workshop on Intellectual Humility, "Permissivism and the Arbitrariness Objection", March 2015

University of Tasmania: Department of Philosophy Seminar, "Permissivism and the Arbitrariness Objection", August 2014

Australian National University: Department of Philosophy Seminar, "A Third Concept of Intrinsic Valuation", April 2014

Central European University: Graduate Philosophy Conference on Agency, "Autonomy and Doxastic Involuntarism in Free Speech", March 2012

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

FREE SPEECH AND AUTONOMY
University College London
Advanced political philosophy module
Lecturer / Coordinator, 2017, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

EPISTEMOLOGY AND SOCEITY
University College London
Intermediate epistemology module
Lecturer / Coordinator: 2021, 22

OBSCENITY AND CENSORSHIP
University College London
Intermediate aesthetics/social philosophy module
Lecturer / Coordinator: 2018

ETHICS
Monash University
Intermediate moral philosophy module
Lecturer / Coordinator: 2016, 2017

INTRO TO HUMAN RIGHTS
Monash University
Introductory political philosophy module
Lecturer / Coordinator, 2013, 14, 15, 16, 17

THE ETHICS OF GLOBAL CONFLICT
Monash University
Advanced political philosophy module
Lecturer / Coordinator: 2014, 2015

LANGUAGE, TRUTH, AND POWER
Monash University
Advanced philosophy of language module
Secondary Lecturer: 2013, 2014

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW
University of Chicago
Advanced *Juris Doctor* Module
Guest Lecturer: 2015

THE PHILOSOPHY OF DIGNITY
  University of Chicago
  Advanced Philosophy Module
  Guest Lecturer: 2015

GENERAL PHILOSOPHY
  Somerville College, Oxford
  Graduate Tutorial Assistant: 2011, 2012

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY
  Somerville College, Oxford
  Graduate Tutorial Assistant: 2011

PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION
  Wadham College, Oxford
  Graduate Tutorial Assistant: 2011

LIFE, DEATH, AND MORALITY
  Monash University
  Introductory Moral Philosophy Module
  Graduate Tutorial Assistant: 2009

TIME, SELF, AND FREEDOM
  Monash University
  Introductory Metaphysics Module
  Graduate Tutorial Assistant: 2008

GRADUATE LEVEL TEACHING

RESEARCH SEMINAR IN LEGAL PHILOSOPHY
  University College London
  Lecturer / Coordinator, 2018, 19, 20, 22

SUMMER SCHOOL IN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY
  Wuhan University, China
  Visiting Lecturer, 2018

FREE SPEECH AND HATE SPEECH
  Monash University
  Honours Level Philosophy Module
  Lecturer and Coordinator, 2016

LEGAL PHILOSOPHY WORKSHOP
  University of Chicago
  Workshop / Graduate Coursework Module
  Co-convenor, 2015

HUMAN RIGHTS AND R2P
  University of Chicago
  Graduate Level Humanities Module
  Lecturer and Coordinator, 2015

ISSUES IN SOCIAL EPISTEMOLOGY
  Monash University
  Honours Level Philosophy Module
  Lecturer and Coordinator, 2014

RESEARCH SUPERVISION / EXAMINATION

I have been the primary supervisor for five PhD students at Monash and UCL.

I have been the primary supervisor for 13 students completing a two-year research-based masters thesis, in the UCL MPhil program (30,000 words), and in the Monash MA Program (40,000 words).

I have supervised 33 students on single-year research projects (8-10K words), in the UCL MA in Philosophy, the UCL Philosophy Undergraduate Dissertation Module, and the Monash Honours Philosophy program. I have supervised on a wide range of topics at this level, in ethics, political philosophy, social theory, feminist philosophy, philosophy of religion, epistemology, and philosophy of language.

I have assessed three PhD dissertations, each of them involving a *viva voce* examination.

I have assessed two MPhil.Stud dissertations, with *viva voce* examination.

REFEREEING

American Philosophical Quarterly (2014), Analysis (2022, 2021, 2020, 2017), Australasian Journal of Philosophy (2021, 2014); British Journal of Political Science (2021, 2018); Cambridge University Press – Manuscript Review (2020); Canadian Journal of Philosophy (2019, 2018); Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy (2020); Eidos: Revista de Filosofía Universidad del Norte (2014); Episteme (2019, 2016, 2014, 2014); Ergo (2022), Erkenntis (2022, 2021, 2019); Ethical Theory and Moral Practice (2018); Ethics (2021, 2019); Ethics and International Affairs (2022); European Journal for Philosophy of Religion (2016); European Journal for Philosophy of Science (2020); Hypatia (2015); Journal of Applied Philosophy (2021, 2018, 2017, 2014); Journal of Controversial Ideas (2020); Journal of Ethics (2019); Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy (2019); Journal of Moral Philosophy (2017); Journal of Political Philosophy (2020, 2020, 2016); Journal of Social Philosophy (2020, 2018, 2015); Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal (2021); Kriterion (2017); Language Sciences (2014); Law and Philosophy (2017); Legal Studies (2022); Legal Theory (2019); Mind (2020; 2018, 2015); MIT Press – Full Manuscript Review (2017); Modern Law Review (2021); The Monist (2019); Oxford Journal of Legal Studies (2019); Oxford University Press – Papers in Edited Volume (2021, 2017); Oxford University Press – Manuscript Review (2020); Pacific Philosophical Quarterly (2017); Philosophical Psychology (2020); Philosophical Quarterly (2022, 2019, 2018); Philosophical Studies (2020); Philosophy Compass (2021); Political Studies (2017); Politics, Philosophy, and Economics (2017); Polity Press – Manuscript Review (2020); Ratio Juris (2018); Res Publica (2018); Routledge – Book Proposal Reviews (2021, 2017, 2016); Routledge – Papers in Edited Volume (2016); Social Philosophy Today (2021); Social Philosophy & Policy (2019); Southern Cross Law Review (2016); Springer – Manuscript Review (2016); Synthese (2018); Theoria (2020); UNSW Law Journal (2021).

SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Associate Editor for the Australasian Journal of Philosophy, 2022-
- In2Research Widening Participation Research Mentor, 2022-
- London Arts and Humanities Partnership, PhD Funding Assessor, 2022-
- Working Group on Developing an Institutional Definition of Anti-Semitism, UCL, 2021-22
- External Examiner for University of Cambridge MPhil in Philosophy, 2019-21
- Departmental Tutor, University College London Philosophy Department, 2018-21
- Widening Participation Officer, University College London Philosophy Department, 2018-20
- Organiser, UCL Philosophy Department "Widening Participation Summer School", August 2019
- Organiser, Workshop on "Philosophical Approaches to Hate Speech", UCL Philosophy, June 2019
- Philosophy Society Liaison, University College London Philosophy Department, 2018-19
- Co-organiser, Institute of Philosophy Seminar Series on 'The Practical, the Ethical, and Political', 2019
- Organiser, "Just Words": Workshop in Applied Philosophy of Language, UCL, June 2018
- Co-organiser, Conference on Democracy and Hate Speech, Queen Mary Law School, June 2017
- Co-organiser, Wellesley Workshop on Law and Language, Wellesley College, March 2017
- Australian Research Council Reviewer, Discovery Projects and DECRA Fellowships, 2014-17
- Convener of the Human Rights Major, Monash University Faculty of Arts, 2016-17
- Co-organiser, APA Society for the Philosophy of Human Rights Meeting, 2016
- Philosophy Graduate Program Coordinator, Monash University, 2015
- Philosophy Honours Program Coordinator, Monash University, 2013-14
- International Studies Committee, Monash University, 2013-14
- Admissions interviews for PPE Degree, Somerville College Oxford, 2012
- 15th Oxford Philosophy Graduate Conference, organising committee member, 2011

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- Guest on *The Minefield*, ABC Radio National, 16th June 2022 [*link*]
- Visiting Speaker at the North London Collegiate School Philosophical Society, January 2022
- Visiting Speaker at the North London Collegiate School Philosophical Society, March 2019
- Guest on the Philosopher's Zone, ABC Radio, 10th March 2019 [*link*]
- Guest Presenter at the Stuart Low Trust Philosophy Forum, London, February 2019
- Interview with Alexander Davies in *Sirp* (an Estonian cultural newspaper), 26 October 2018
- Leeds Philosophy and Film Society, speaker at a screening of *Life is Sweet* (UK, 1990), October 2018
- Guest with Scott Stephens and Waleed Aly on *The Minefield*, ABC Radio National, September 2017
- Guest / Interviewee on *Ethics Matters*, ABC Television Australia [*link*]
- Guest on *The Minefield*, ABC Radio National, November 2016
- *Elucidations* podcast on 'Indoctrination Anxiety', May 2016 [*link*]
- Judge for Victorian Association for Philosophy in School's 2015 *Philosothon*, September 2015
- *Humanities 21* presentation on free speech to Holding Redlich Law Firm, May 2014
- Interview with Richard King and Waleed Aly on the *Drawing Room*, ABC Radio, August 2013