

# Christian Culak

CONTACT	Department of Philosophy University of Missouri Columbia, Missouri	<a href="mailto:cculak@mail.missouri.edu">cculak@mail.missouri.edu</a>
AOS	Ethics	
AOC	Applied Ethics (Bioethics, Virtue Ethics, Animal Ethics, Environmental Ethics), Metaphysics, Epistemology, Introductory Logic	
EDUCATION	<b>University of Missouri</b> PhD, Philosophy, 2022-2024 (expected) Dissertation: <i>The Limits of the Virtue of Compassion</i> Committee: Robert Johnson, Kenneth Boyce, Philip Robbins, Paul Litton  <b>University of Missouri</b> MA, Philosophy, 2019-2021 Thesis 1: <i>“Resolving Desire Conflicts in the Democratic Man”</i> Supervisor: Marta Heckel Thesis 2: <i>“Epistemically Useful and Metaphysically Adequate Pluralist Accounts of Essentialism”</i> Supervisor: André Ariew  <b>University of Texas at San Antonio</b> MA, Philosophy, 2017-2019 Thesis: <i>“Justification Internalism and Content Externalism: A Defense of Compatibility”</i> Supervisor: Joshua Thurow  <b>University of Texas at San Antonio</b> BA, Philosophy, 2015-2017	
DISSERTATION ABSTRACT	Some people are characteristically compassionate, others not. If so, is this a virtue some possess and others lack? I think so. I show this by defending a conception of compassion as a virtue and demarcating its limits. My project consists of: finding the best conception of compassion as a virtue; delineating the circumstances and extent to which being a compassionate person requires that one’s compassion extends to people outside of one’s narrow circle, animals, and even the environment; investigating the limits of compassion’s moral justificatory power, its sensitivity, the degree to which it relies on anthropomorphization, and action.	

AWARDS AND HONORS	Honoree for MU vs. Georgia Professor Appreciation Volleyball Game (Nov. 5 <sup>th</sup> )	2023
	Nominated for the College of Arts and Science “Outstanding PhD Nominees” (May 11 <sup>th</sup> )	2023
	Finalist for the Charlotte Newcombe Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship in Religion and Ethics	2023
	1 <sup>st</sup> place: U. Texas Department of Philosophy Graduate Student Essay Prize Competition	2019
	3 <sup>rd</sup> place: Graduate research paper competition at U. Texas’s Spring 2019 College of Liberal and Fine Arts Conference	2019
	Admission to Academy of Undergraduate Research Associates (U. Texas: honorary association)	2017
PRESENTATIONS	“Epistemically Useful and Metaphysically Adequate Pluralist Accounts of Essentialism”. ISHPSSB Biennial Meeting 2021, Zoom, July 2021.	
	“Dream Beliefs”. Spring 2019 College of Liberal and Fine Arts Conference, U. Texas, March 2019.	
	“Communicating with Koko the Gorilla”. Spring 2017 College of Liberal and Fine Arts Conference, U. Texas, March 2017.	
TEACHING	As Primary Instructor (U. Missouri) “Logic and Reasoning for Everyday Life” (Spring 2024) “Introductory Bioethics” (Fall 2023) “Introduction to Philosophy” (Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Fall 2021) “Introduction to Ethics” (Fall 2022)	
	As Primary Instructor (Southwest School of Art) “Introduction to Philosophy” (Spring 2021, Spring 2019)	
	As Teaching Assistant (U. Missouri) “Logic and Reasoning for Everyday Life” (Fall 2021) Instructor: André Ariew	
	“Introduction to Philosophy” (Spring 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019) Instructor: Marta Heckel (S2021, F2020) Instructor: Claire Horisk (F2019)	

“Medical Ethics” (Spring 2020)  
Instructor: Troy Hall

TEACHING CERTIFICATES	Teaching and Learning in the Diverse Classroom (Cornell U.)	2023
	Online Teaching Certification (U. Missouri)	2021
TEACHING WORKSHOPS	Inclusive Syllabus and Course Design	11/09/2023
	Teaching in the Age of ChatGPT (U. Missouri)	09/19/2023
	Student Engagement Workshop (U. Missouri)	09/18/2023
	Dimensions of Inclusive Teaching (U. Missouri)	09/18/2023
CONFERENCE SERVICE	2017 Brackenridge Symposium (U. Texas), introduced speakers (October 2017)	
GRADUATE COURSEWORK	(*not taken for credit)	
	<i>*18<sup>th</sup> Century British Aesthetics</i> , M Folescu	
	<i>*Philosophy of Evolutionary Biology</i> , André Ariew	
	<i>*Decision Theory</i> , Paul Weirich	
	<i>Kant’s Critique of Practical Reason</i> , Robert Johnson	
	<i>Philosophy of Language</i> , Claire Horisk	
	<i>Social and Political Philosophy</i> , Peter Vallentyne	
	<i>Metaphysics</i> , Kenneth Boyce	
	<i>Decision Theory</i> , Paul Weirich	
	<i>Theories of Psychology in Plato’s Works</i> , Marta Heckel	
	<i>Advanced Logic</i> , Paul Weirich	
	<i>Philosophy of Evolutionary Biology</i> , André Ariew	
	<i>Ethical Theory</i> , Robert Johnson	
	<i>Proper Functionalism and Virtue Epistemology</i> , Kenneth Boyce	
	<i>Bayesian Epistemology</i> , Paul Weirich	