

ARTHUR KRIEGER

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
MAZUR HALL 728, 1114 POLETT WALK
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19122

ARTHUR.KRIEGER@TEMPLE.EDU | WWW.ARTHURKRIEGER.NET

EDUCATION

PhD	Temple University, Philosophy <i>Dissertation:</i> “Addiction as Compulsion” <i>Committee:</i> Eugene Chislenko (chair), Miriam Solomon, Brian Hutler, David Wolfsdorf <i>External Examiner:</i> Hanna Pickard (Johns Hopkins)	2017–2026 (Expected)
MA	Temple University, Philosophy	2014–2017
BA	New College of Florida, Philosophy (cum laude)	2008–2012

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Psychiatry, Bioethics, Action Theory

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Normative Ethics, Social and Political Philosophy, Modern Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Krieger, A. (2025). The Epistemic Prerequisites of Reliable Abstinence in Addiction. *Philosophy, Psychiatry, & Psychology*, 32(4): 349–361. <https://doi.org/10.1353/ppp.0.a970040>

Krieger, A. (2025). Benzos (as) needed: research into as-needed and intermittent benzodiazepines for anxiety is required for comprehensive best prescribing practices. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 16: 1569416. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2025.1569416>

Krieger, A. (2024). Torturous withdrawal: Emotional compulsion in addiction. *European Journal of Philosophy*, 32(4): 1317–1333. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejop.12967>

Krieger, A. (2024). Does Addiction Cause Addictive Behavior? *Philosophy, Psychiatry, & Psychology*, 31(1): 79–88. <https://doi.org/10.1353/ppp.2024.a922687>

Krieger, A. (2023). Mme de Staël’s Philosophy of Imagination. *Cahiers staéliens*, n° 73: 77–100. <https://doi.org/10.48611/isbn.978-2-406-16074-8.p.0077>

Invited Articles

Krieger, A. (forthcoming, 12/2025). The Contours of Agency in Addiction. *Philosophy, Psychiatry, & Psychology*, 32(4). <https://doi.org/10.1353/ppp.0.a970041>

HONORS AND AWARDS

Graduate Student Prize for Excellence in Service (Temple Philosophy)	2025
AAPP Karl Jaspers Award	2024
Summer Research Grant (Temple Graduate School; \$6,000)	2024
Advanced Graduate Scholar Fellowship (Temple Center for Humanities)	AY 2022–23
APA Graduate Student Travel Stipend	2022
Travel Grants (Temple Philosophy & College of Liberal Arts)	2017, 2021
Graduate Student Prize for Excellence in Teaching and Undergraduate Mentoring (Temple Philosophy)	2020
Graduate Student Instructor of Record Award (Temple College of Liberal Arts)	2020
Research Assistantship (Temple College of Liberal Arts)	AY 2019–20
Nordev Prize for Best Graduate Student Paper (Temple Philosophy)	2018

TEACHING

Instructor of Record

Environmental Ethics (Temple University)

Spring 2025 (Early Term Start; two sections, asynchronous online)

Ethics in Medicine (Temple University)

Fall 2021 (one section, in-person); Spring 2022 (one section, in-person)

Introduction to Ethical Theory (Temple University)

Fall 2020 (two sections, online); Fall 2021 (one section, in-person); Spring 2022 (one section, in-person)

Landscape of American Thought (Temple University)

Fall 2018 (two sections, in-person); Spring 2019 (two sections: one online, one in-person); Spring 2021 (two sections, online)

Meaning of the Arts (Temple University)

Fall 2017 (two sections, in-person); Spring 2018 (two sections, in-person); Fall 2019 (two sections, in-person); Spring 2020 (one section, online); Summer 1 2020 (one section, online); Spring 2021 (one section, online)

Teaching Assistant

The Social Contract (University of Pennsylvania)

Instructor of Record: Professor Carlos Pereira Di Salvo

Fall 2022 (three recitation sections, 75 students; in-person)

Student Honors

Temple University Undergraduate Student Award for Academic Excellence in the General Education Program. Sophia Shaiman (my nomination). 2020.

PRESENTATIONS

“Benzos (as) needed: research into as-needed and intermittent benzodiazepines for anxiety is required for comprehensive best prescribing practices”

- WPA World Congress of Psychiatry. October 2025. E-Poster.

“The Epistemic Prerequisites of Reliable Abstinence in Addiction”

- Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry Annual Meeting. May 2024.

“Does Addiction Excuse Carjacking?”

- Great Lakes Philosophy Conference. March 2024.

“Does Addiction Cause Addictive Behavior?”

- Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. March 2023.

“Addiction as Compulsion: Necessary and Sufficient Conditions”

- APA Central Division Meeting. February 2022. Colloquium.

“Addiction and Compulsion: Two Ambiguities”

- Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting. July 2021. Poster.

“Cassirer’s Theory of Dipolar Perception”

- Marquette University Graduate Philosophy Conference. April 2017.
- New Mexico-Texas Philosophical Society Annual Conference. March 2017.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Summer Seminar in Healthcare Ethics (2025)

University of Washington Department of Bioethics & Humanities

Description: Twenty-two-hour intensive seminar series in healthcare ethics with a focus on Jonsen, Siegler & Winslade’s *Clinical Ethics: A Practical Approach to Ethical Decisions in Clinical Medicine* (9th Edition).

Safe Zone Certificate (2020)

Temple University Office of IDEAL

Description: LGBTQIA+ issues and advocacy certification training.

Teaching in Higher Education Certificate for Graduate Students (2020)

Temple University College of Liberal Arts

Description: Introduction to higher education pedagogy and teaching skill development.

GRANTS AWARDED

Grants and contracts awarded as a lead grant writer on behalf of Project HOME, a nationally renowned 501(c)(3) and FQHC working to end chronic street homelessness in Philadelphia (USA). Project HOME is either the primary recipient or a subgrantee.

FY26 Emergency Housing Contract

Grantor: City of Philadelphia Office of Homeless Services (OHS)

Amount: \$ 1,512,065

FY26 Domestic Access to Care Grant

Grantor: Foundation for Endodontics

Amount: \$8,925

2025 Nursing Internship Program

Grantor: Independence Blue Cross Foundation

Amount: \$17,250

FY25 Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Subgrant

Grantor: Pennsylvania Association of Community Health Centers (PACHC)

Amount: \$50,000

COVID-19 Therapeutics Program

Grantor: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) [In-kind]

SERVICE

Departmental Service

Coach, Temple APPE Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl Team	Spring 2024–Present
Graduate Student Representative	AY 2020–21
COVID-19 Online Transition Team	Spring 2020
GenEd Online Course Development, Meaning of the Arts	Spring 2020
Philosophy Department Works-In-Progress Series Committee	AY 2019–20
Co-Director, Temple Philosophy Mentor Program	Fall 2018–Spring 2020
Mentor, Temple Philosophy Mentor Program	Fall 2017–Spring 2023
Organizer, Temple Philosophy Graduate Student Conference	Spring 2018

Professional Service

Temple University Hospital Ethics Committee	March 2025–Present
Research post contributor, Imperfect Cognitions (blog)	April 2025
Research post contributor, Blog of the APA	April 2022
Session chair, APA Eastern Division Meeting	2020, 2021

Journals Refereed

Philosophy, Psychiatry, & Psychology (x 2)

The health sciences have long viewed addiction as a compulsion. But a body of psychological evidence shows that addictive decision-making is often reason-responsive, and epidemiological studies suggest that many addicts recover from addiction on their own. Prominent philosophers and social scientists take this to mean that addiction is a matter of free choice rather than compulsion. The stakes of the disagreement are high. The compulsion view reduces stigma and facilitates treatment. The free choice view attributes to addicts a high degree of responsibility, potentially empowering them but also risking re-stigmatization.

I argue that addiction is a compulsion because it compromises the ability to reliably abstain. While much addictive behavior is under agential control, much is not; addiction undermines control in several ways. And while studies show that substance misusers often stop on their own, psychiatry distinguishes addiction from less severe disorders. Evidence suggests that the ability to reliably abstain in addiction has to be regained, usually with professional help. The action-theoretic distinction between first- and second-order ability—i.e. between the ability to ϕ , and the ability to become able to ϕ —enables us to say that addiction universally compromises the first-order ability to reliably abstain, while the second-order ability depends largely on access to scarce societal resources, like effective treatment.

Addiction undermines the ability to reliably abstain by undermining control over some individual behaviors. Neil Levy and Chandra Sripada identify several cognitive processes that undermine resolution adherence in addiction, but the case for addictive compulsivity is strengthened when we account for the role of affect. While Hanna Pickard convincingly denies one form of emotional compulsion in addiction, I develop an original account centering on the emotional distress of withdrawal. I argue that the ability to intentionally abstain requires belief in one's ability to attempt abstinence, and that in what I call "pathodoxastic compulsion," this belief is precluded by sufficiently intense distress.

A foundation of my arguments for addictive compulsivity is the view that addiction is a condition with particular control-impairing aspects. A predictable criticism of this view from the social sciences is that addiction is not a condition at all, apart from being a pattern of otherwise normal behavior. I therefore provide two arguments against the reduction of addiction to a behavioral pattern. For one, addiction informatively explains addictive behavior, and it is viciously circular to explain a behavior ϕ in terms of behavior ϕ . Moreover, addiction persists long after addictive behavior ceases, and this is hard to account for if addiction is nothing but a behavioral pattern.

The compulsivity of addiction has important bioethical implications. The fact that addicts cannot reliably abstain means that putative treatment options for addiction must be compared not to abstinence but to nonmedical use in consequentialist analysis, including medical risk-benefit analysis. As such, harm reduction measures that have been shown to improve health outcomes for addicts by enabling medically supervised drug use accord with both widespread moral intuitions about when drug use is immoral, and the ethical principles governing the healthcare professions. We ought to proliferate even the most controversial evidence-supported harm reduction measures, including the medical provision of drugs of addiction.

REFERENCES

Eugene Chislenko

Associate Professor of Philosophy
Temple University
chislenko@temple.edu
(510) 387-1498

Miriam Solomon

Professor Emerit* of Philosophy
Temple University
msolomon@temple.edu
(610) 246-8765

Brian Hutler

Assistant Professor of Philosophy
Temple University
brian.hutler@temple.edu
(215) 204-1742

David Wolfsdorf

Professor of Philosophy
Temple University
dwolfsdo@temple.edu
(215) 435-5736

Eli Alshanetsky (Teaching Reference)

Assistant Professor of Philosophy
Temple University
alshanetsky@temple.edu
(408) 891-0094