

# EDWARD ANDREW GREETIS, PHD

Phone: (760) 533-2840  
[edward.greetis@colorado.edu](mailto:edward.greetis@colorado.edu)  
<https://edwardagreetisphd.owlstown.net/>

University of Colorado, Boulder  
Boulder, CO

## RESEARCH

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### Areas of Specialization

Social and Political Philosophy (especially the normative political economy of environmental sustainability, distributive justice and labor, global justice/patriotism, contract theory, the philosophy of John Rawls, and race and justice)

### Areas of Competence

Applied Ethics, Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology

## EDUCATION

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| <b>Ph.D. University of Utah, Philosophy</b>  | May 2019 |
| Dissertation: "Global Justice: A Defense of Institutional Cosmopolitanism."  |          |
| Committee: Cynthia Stark (chair), Leslie Francis, Chrisoula Andreou, Erin Beeghly, Darrel Moellendorf (Goethe University, Frankfurt) |          |
| <b>MA San Diego State University, Philosophy</b>   | May 2012 |
| Thesis: "The Structure of Epistemic Justification"   |          |
| Supervised by: Steven Barbone, J. Angelo Corlett   |          |
| <b>BA California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo, Philosophy</b>  | May 2009 |
| Graduated <i>Cum Laude</i>   |          |

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS HELD

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|---|--------------|
| <b>Philosophy Lecturer</b>                        | 2019-Present |
| University of Colorado, Boulder                   |              |
| <b>Philosophy Instructor</b>                      | Spring 2019  |
| Utah Valley University                            |              |
| <b>Predoctoral Teaching Fellow</b>                | 2017-2018    |
| University of Utah Teaching Assistantship Award   |              |
| <b>Predoctoral Research Fellow</b>                | 2016-2017    |
| Marriner S. Eccles Fellowship, University of Utah |              |

<b>Predocctoral Research Fellow</b> Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften Cluster of Excellence, The Formation of Normative Orders, Goethe University, Germany	2015
<b>Graduate Assistant / Teaching Assistant</b> University of Utah	2012-2016
<b>Research Assistant</b> Adviser: Mariam Thalos Research: <u>Reductionism in Science</u>	2013-2014
<b>Research Assistant</b> Adviser: Darrel Moellendorf, the Institute for Ethics and Public Affairs San Diego State University Research: <u>Global Justice and Climate Change</u>	2010-2012
<b>Graduate Assistant / Teaching Assistant</b> Institute for Ethics and Public Affairs, San Diego State University	2010-2012

#### *PUBLICATIONS*

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**“Liberal Environmentalism Without Capitalism’s Endless Growth.”** *Ethics & the Environment*, 30(1), 2025, 1-31. DOI: 10.2979/een.00011

**“The Separateness of Persons: Defending the Rawlsian Institutional Approach to Distributive Justice.”** *The Journal of Value Inquiry*, 57(2), 2023, 319–341.  
DOI: 10.1007/s10790-021-09829-7

**“Against the Anticosmopolitan Basic Structure Argument: The Systemic Concept of Distributive Justice and Economic Divisions of Labor.”** *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*, 25(2), 2022, 551-571.  
DOI: 10.1080/13698230.2019.1697844

**“Rescuing Rawls’s Institutionalism and Incentives Inequality.”** *Res Publica: A Journal of Moral, Legal and Social Philosophy*, 25(4), 2019, 571-590.  
DOI: 10.1007/s11158-018-09413-0

**“The Priority of Liberty: Rawls Versus Pogge.”** *The Philosophical Forum*, 46(2), 2015, 227-245. DOI: 10.1111/phil.12066

**“Dissociative Identity: An Objection to Baker’s Constitution Theory.”** *Acta Analytica*, 26(4), 2011, 329-341. DOI: 10.1007/s12136-011-0133-1

**“Spinoza’s Rejection of Teleology.”** *Revista Conatus: Filosofia de Spinoza*, 4(8), 2010, 25-35. Open access: <https://dialnet.unirioja.es/download/articulo/3666510.pdf>

WORK IN PROGRESS OR UNDER REVIEW

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**Bounded Justice for Tribal Creatures: a fact-sensitive defense of patriotism (co-author: Renaud-Philippe Garner, PhD) Revise and Resubmit at a top political philosophy journal**

**Labor, Competition, and Status**

**The Right to Sustainable Development and Degrowth Ecological Economics**

**Racial Injustice, Self-Respect, and Protest**

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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*As Lecturer at University of Colorado, Boulder*

**Ethics and Sex/Gender** Fall 2025-Spring 2026

**Philosophy and Law**

**Philosophy and Race x3**

**Introduction to Medical Ethics x3**

**War and Morality** Fall 2024-Summer 2025

**Ethics and Economics**

**Philosophy and Race x 2**

**Introduction to Medical Ethics x3**

**Poverty, Power, and Patriotism:**

**Issues in Global Justice x2**

**Philosophy and Race (Race and Justice) x5** Fall 2023-Spring 2024

**Poverty, Power, and Patriotism x3**

**Philosophy and Race x2** Fall 2022-Spring 2023

**Poverty, Power, and Patriotism x 3**

**Ethics and Sex/Gender**

**Ethics and Information Technology (AI/robotics) x2**

**Philosophy and Race x 5** Fall 2021-Spring 2022

**Poverty, Power, and Patriotism x3**

**Major Social Theories (Political Philosophy) x3** Fall 2020-Spring 2021

**Biomedical ethics x2**

**Poverty, Power, and Patriotism x 2**

<b>Biomedical ethics x2</b>	Fall 2019-Spring 2020
<b>Poverty, Power, and Patriotism</b>	
<b>Ethics (Applied Ethics) x2</b>	
<b>Major Social Theories</b>	
<i>As Instructor at Utah Valley University</i>	
<b>Ethics and Values (Introduction to Applied Ethics) x2</b>	Spring 2019
<b>Introduction to (Political) Philosophy</b>	
<i>As Instructor at University of Utah</i>	
<b>Global Inequality and Poverty</b>	Summer 2013-Spring 2018
<b>(Politics, Philosophy, and Economics)</b>	
<b>Ethics (Introduction to Applied Ethics) x3</b>	
<b>Biomedical Ethics x10</b>	
<i>As Teaching Assistant at University of Utah</i>	
<b>Global Justice</b> (for Jason Wyckoff)	Summer 2013
<b>Introduction to Epistemology/Metaphysics x2</b>	Fall 2012-Spring 2013
(for Dustin Stokes, and as sole instructor every Friday)	
<i>As Sole Instructor at San Diego State University</i>	
<b>Political Philosophy</b>	2011

## PRESENTATIONS

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### *Invited Presentations*

**“Sexual Consent, Bad Sex, and Duties of Self-Respect.”** Kappa Alpha Theta, University of Colorado Boulder (2023)

**“The Separateness of Persons: Defending the Institutional Approach to Distributive Justice.”** The Center for Values and Social Policy, University of Colorado, Boulder Philosophy Department (2019)

**“Social Cooperation and the Scope of Distributive Justice,”** Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften Normative Orders at Goethe University, Frankfurt Germany (2015)

### *Conference Papers*

**“Alternatives to Capitalism: Liberal Egalitarianism or Marxism?”** American Philosophical Association Central Division, Denver, Symposium Paper (2023) (peer-reviewed paper)

**“Why ‘Autonomy Solutions’ Cannot Avoid Kim’s Downward Causation Argument,”** Intermountain Philosophy Conference, Utah Valley University (2013) (peer-reviewed paper)

“**Pogge’s Arguments against Rawls’s Priority of Liberty,**” Workshop on Thomas Pogge and Global Justice, UCSD/SDSU (2012) (peer-reviewed paper)

“**Spinoza’s Rejection of Teleology,**” American Philosophical Association Pacific Division, San Diego, Colloquium Paper (2011) (peer-reviewed paper)

#### *HONORS AND AWARDS*

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- University of Utah Teaching Assistantship Award** 2017-2018  
Course Designed: Global Inequality and Poverty  
(Politics, Philosophy, and Economics)  
Awarded to 12-15 graduate students annually
- Marriner S. Eccles Research Fellowship** 2016-2017  
Awarded to 2 graduate students for 2016-2017
- Predocctoral Fellowship, Cluster of Excellence** 2015  
**The Formation of Normative Orders,**  
**Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften,**  
**Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany**

#### *ACADEMIC SERVICE*

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**Journal and Conference Reviewer:** *The Journal of Social Philosophy, Philosophers’ Imprint, Ergo x2, Social Theory and Practice x2, Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review, Acta Analytica,* Intermountain West Student Philosophy Conference, University of Utah 2012-2017

**Public Political Philosophy/Associations:** American Philosophical Association member, Adviser to the Socioeconomic Justice Society (a student outreach and activism group), and active United Campus Workers of Colorado (union) member

**Conference/Colloquium Organizer:** The Institute for Ethics and Public Affairs 2010-2012

**Conference Chair:** American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, San Diego 2011

#### *DISSERTATION ABSTRACT*

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My dissertation argues first that social and economic institutions, rather than one’s character or individual transactions, are the proper site of distributive justice—an account called “institutionalism.” The dissertation makes a case for thinking that distributive justice is “constructed” from liberal democratic ideas to solve the conflict in claims to rights, resources, opportunities, and powers that result from peoples’ pluralistic and incompatible ideas of the good life, including their religious and ethical beliefs. Because justice is the solution to a practical interaction problem that results from accepting fundamental democratic ideas, the reasoning for a conception of justice needs to accurately represent the problem. Once this is done, it is argued that only institutionalism is justified. The reasoning for anti-institutionalist conceptions, such as utilitarianism and act-

egalitarianism, does not accurately represent the interaction problem arising from distinct persons with their own ideas of the good.

My dissertation uses the framework supporting institutionalism to argue second that distributive justice is global in scope—a view called “cosmopolitanism.” I examine the main cases for distributive justice, compatible with institutionalism, that restrict the scope of justice to the institutions of a state. Conceptions of distributive justice are based on a universal conception of the person, which people share across borders. So, these cases hold that the social institutions of a state organize economic cooperation to conclude that distributive justice applies only among compatriots. This is because distributive justice organizes a division of labor for a joint socioeconomic product, which only occurs with economic cooperation. My dissertation shows that if justice is a response to the conflicting claims we make on resources, then the main cases for distributive justice imply instead that justice is global in scope. Principles of distributive justice determine the functional roles of a socioeconomic system, that is, they determine what the division of labor in an economy is and who can participate. Thus, being members of an existing division of labor, organized by state institutions, cannot restrict the scope of justice. The main liberal democratic cases for restricting distributive justice to the state fail.

## REFERENCES

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Cynthia Stark, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Utah

[cynthia.stark@utah.edu](mailto:cynthia.stark@utah.edu)

Darrel Moellendorf, Professor of International Political Theory, Goethe University  
Frankfurt Germany

[darrel.moellendorf@normativeorders.net](mailto:darrel.moellendorf@normativeorders.net)

Leslie Francis, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, Alfred C. Emery Endowed  
Professor, College of Law, University of Utah

[francisl@law.utah.edu](mailto:francisl@law.utah.edu)

Chrisoula Andreou, Professor of Philosophy, University of Utah

[c.andreou@utah.edu](mailto:c.andreou@utah.edu)

Dominic Bailey, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Colorado, Boulder

[dominic.bailey@colorado.edu](mailto:dominic.bailey@colorado.edu) (teaching reference)