

LUKE SEMRAU

Curriculum Vitae

Bloomsburg University
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EDUCATION

PhD	Philosophy	Vanderbilt University, 2016
MA	Philosophy	Tufts University, 2011
MS	Education	St. Joseph's University, 2007
BA	Philosophy	Whitman College, 2003

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2020-	Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Bloomsburg University
2018-20	Junior Faculty Fellow, Institute for the Study of Markets and Ethics, Georgetown University
2016-18	Lecturer, Vanderbilt University

RESEARCH

AOS	Ethics (Normative Theory and Applied Ethics)
AOC	Logic

PUBLICATIONS

Book

2019 *Thinking Through Utilitarianism: A Guide to Contemporary Arguments* with Andrew T. Forcehimes, Hackett

Articles

"Are Markets Amenable to Consequentialist Evaluation?" *Business Ethics Quarterly* (forthcoming)

2025 "The Best Option Argument and Kidney Sales: A Reply to Albertsen" *Journal of Medical Ethics* 51(6): 429-430

2024 "Kidney Sales and Disrespectful Demands: A Reply to Rippon" *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 49(6): 522-531

2024 "The Altruism Requirement as Moral Fiction" *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 49(3): 257-270

- 2024 "Exploitation, Coercion, and Other Problems with Kidney Donation" *Think* 23(66): 47-52
- 2023 "Kidney Donors' Interests and the Prohibition on Sales" *Bioethics* 37(9): 831-837
- 2022 "A Regulated System of Incentives for Living Kidney Donation: Clearing the Way for an Informed Assessment" with Arthur Matas, *American Journal of Transplantation* 22(11): 2509-2514
- 2020 "Relationship Sensitive Consequentialism is Regrettable" with Andrew T. Forcehimes, *Social Theory and Practice* 46(2): 257-276
- 2020 "Understanding Choice, Pressure, and Kidney Sales" *Journal of Medical Ethics* 46(4): 277-278
- 2019 "When the Patina of Empirical Respectability Wears Off: Kidney Sales and Motivational Crowding" *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 22(5): 1055-1071
- 2019 "Actualism Doesn't Have Control Issues: A Reply to Cohen and Timmerman" with Andrew T. Forcehimes, *Philosophia* 47(1): 271-277
- 2018 "Non-Compliance Shouldn't Be Better" with Andrew T. Forcehimes, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 97(1): 46-56
- 2018 "Are There Distinctively Moral Reasons?" with Andrew T. Forcehimes, *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 21(3): 699-717
- 2018 "Organ Donor or Gratuitous Moral Failure? Pick One" *Think* 17(50): 85-89
- 2017 "A Mistake in the Commodification Debate" *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 3(3): 354-371
- 2017 "Reassessing Likely Harms to Vendors in Regulated Kidney Markets" *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 42(6): 634-652. With a reply by Julian Koplin
- 2017 "Beneficence: Does Agglomeration Matter?" with Andrew T. Forcehimes, *Journal of Applied Philosophy* 34(4): 17-33
- 2017 "Misplaced Paternalism and Other Mistakes in the Debate Over Kidney Sales" *Bioethics* 31(3): 190-198
- 2016 "Well-Being: Reality's Role" with Andrew T. Forcehimes, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 2(3): 456-468
- 2015 "The Difference We Make: A Reply to Pinkert" with Andrew T. Forcehimes, *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* (9)2
- 2015 "The Best Argument Against Kidney Sales Fails" *Journal of Medical Ethics* 41(6): 443-446
Editors' Choice
Reprinted in *Exploring Moral Problems: An Introductory Anthology* edited by Cahn, Steven M. and Andrew T. Forcehimes, Oxford University Press, 2018

- 2015 "Your Mother Doesn't Love You For Who You Are" *Think* 14(29): 95-97
- 2014 "Kidneys Save Lives. Markets Would Probably Help" *Public Affairs Quarterly* 28(1): 71-95

Book Chapter

"Kidney Sales, Since Everyone Benefits." *Markets in Human Organs for Transplantation: Controversy and Contention*, ed. James Stacey Taylor and Mark Cherry. Routledge (forthcoming)

Book Reviews

- 2020 "Taking Utilitarianism Seriously" by Christopher Woodard in *Journal of Value Inquiry* 54(4): 663-668
- 2017 "Markets Without Limits" by Jason Brennan and Peter Jaworski in *Economics and Philosophy* 33(2): 326-332

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- "Buying Kidneys to Benefit Sellers" under review
- "Gift of Life or Burden of Words?" under review
- "Money: Altruism's Unlikely Ally" under review
- "Against Market Individualism" in progress

SERVICE

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| Institutional Review Board (IRB) | Fall 2020 – |
| Faculty Council | Fall 2024 – |
| College of Liberal Arts Curriculum Committee | Fall 2021 – Spring 2022 |

REFEREE

Australasian Journal of Philosophy | *Bioethics* | *Business Ethics Quarterly* | *Erasmus Journal for Philosophy and Economics* | *Erkenntnis* | *Healthcare and Philosophy* | *Medicine, Health Care and Philosophy* | *Monash Bioethics Review* | *Journal of Medical Ethics* | *Public Affairs Quarterly* | *Utilitas*

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

- 2026 "What Altruism Hides: Kidney Donation and Semantic Occlusion," *American Philosophical Association* (Central Division, main program), February
- 2025 "Are Markets Amenable to Consequentialist Evaluation?" *Controversial Markets Conference*, Aarhus University, May

- 2022 "What's Wrong with Kidney Donation," *American Philosophical Association* (Central Division, main program), February
- 2019 "Kidney Failure, Market Success," The College of New Jersey, April
- 2017 "A Mistake in the Commodification Debate," Nanyang Technological University, July
- 2017 "Goods, Agents, and their Persistence Over Time," with Andrew T. Forcehimes, *Neutrality: Reasons, Values, and Times*, Nanyang Technological University, July
- 2017 "A Mistake in the Commodification Debate," *Tennessee Philosophical Association*, October
- 2016 "Misplaced Paternalism and Other Mistakes in the Debate over Kidney Sales," *Tennessee Philosophical Association*, November
- 2016 "Well-Being: It's All in the Head," with Andrew T. Forcehimes, *American Philosophical Association* (Pacific Division, main program), March
- 2015 "Altruism and the Ethical Acquisition of Organs," *Vanderbilt University Philosophy Colloquium*, November
- 2015 "Consequential Mistakes in the Debate Over Kidney Sales," *Tennessee Philosophical Association*, October

COMMENTARIES

- 2017 Joungbin Lim, "What the Remnant Person Problem Really Implies," *Tennessee Philosophical Association*, October
- 2016 Josh May, "Regard for Reason: A Defense of Our Moral Minds," *Tennessee Philosophical Association*, November
- 2016 David Hershenov, "Hastening Death for the Sake of Dignity?" *Tennessee Philosophical Association*, November
- 2014 Emily McGill-Rutherford, "Neither an Island nor a Dupe: Relational Autonomy and the Self," *Social and Political Thought Workshop*, Vanderbilt University, September
- 2014 Andrew T. Forcehimes, "Reasons Fundamentalism and the Appropriation Problem," *Social and Political Thought Workshop*, Vanderbilt University, February
- 2013 Mark Coppenger, "Waterboarding and the Platinum Rule," *Tennessee Philosophical Association*, October
- 2012 David Estlund, "Bad Facts," *Social and Political Thought Workshop*, Vanderbilt University, September

TEACHING

Bloomsburg University

Moral Limits of the Market	2025
Medical Ethics	2020 (2x), 2021 (x3), 2022 (x4), 2023 (x4), 2024 (x4)
Business Ethics	2020 (2x), 2021 (x3), 2022 (x2), 2023 (x2), 2024 (x2)
Ethics	2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
Contemporary Moral Problems	2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Georgetown University

Ethical Values of Business	2019
Social Responsibility of Business	2018, 2019 (2x)

Vanderbilt University

Intro to Philosophy	2012, 2013, 2014
Intro to Ethics	2013, 2016 (x2), 2017 (x3), 2018 (2x)
Logic	2015 (x2), 2016, 2017 (x2)
Intro to Business Ethics	2016
Moral Problems	2017
Contemporary Ethical Theory	2018
Intro to Medical Ethics	2014

City of Kyoto

2005-07 Elementary School English, Japanese Exchange and Teaching Program

School District of Philadelphia

2003-05 Sixth Grade Math and Science, Teach for America

AWARDS

2015	Kendall Berry Graduate Student Publication Award
2014	Kendall Berry Graduate Student Publication Prize
2013	Kendall Berry Teaching Award
2012	Kendall Berry Early Teaching Award

RECOMMENDATIONS

Robert B. Talisse
Professor of Philosophy, Chair
Vanderbilt University
robert.talisse@vanderbilt.edu

Steven Hales
Professor of Philosophy

Bloomsburg University
shales@commonwealthu.edu

Jason Brennan
Professor of Strategy, Economics, Ethics,
and Public Policy
Georgetown University

Luke Semrau | September 2025

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John Hasnas
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Peter Jaworski
Associate Teaching Professor

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