

Lyric Helena Emerson

Independent Scholar | Political Philosophy & International Ethics
Southern New Hampshire University (Undergraduate)
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Research Interests

Political philosophy; global justice; international ethics; just war theory; human rights; state violence; policing and militarization; distributive justice; moral responsibility; democratic legitimacy; international perspectives on U.S. governance.

Education

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU)
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (in progress)
Concentration: American Politics & International Relations

Publications

Justice as Fairness and the Moral Structure of Social Cooperation
Fair Cooperation Without Desert: Rawls on Justice, Advantage, and Reciprocity
Entitlement, Redistribution, and the Limits of Patterned Justice
Justice Beyond Institutions: G. A. Cohen on Choice, Equality, and Moral Responsibility
Rights, Redistribution, and the Limits of Justice in Robert Nozick
Liberty, Harm, and the Limits of Social Authority in John Stuart Mill
Liberty, Free Speech, and the Limits of Paternalism
Reciprocity Without Justice: Tommie Shelby on Law, Obligation, and Social Membership
Just War Theory and the Normalization of Civilian Harm
From Retribution to Prolonged War: The U.S. Invasion and the Ethics of Occupation
Abuse Abroad: Torture, Detention, Occupation, and the Moral Collapse of War Governance
Abuse at Home: Policing, Militarization, ICE, and the Return of War Techniques to the Domestic Sphere
Gaza and the Ethics of Contemporary War: Siege, Civilian Harm, and International Law
Political Systems of Thought in 2025: Power, Security, and the Future of Global Order

<https://philpeople.org/profiles/lyric-helena-emerson>

<https://papers.ssrn.com/searchresults.cfm?authors=lyric+helena+emerson>

https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=0%2C41&q=lyric+helena+emerson&btnG=

<https://sites.google.com/view/lyrichelenaemerson/about>

<https://orcid.org/0009-0001-5355-6489>

Academic Impact

Global readership across more than 35 countries.

Multiple papers exceeding 100–200 downloads.

Institutional and international engagement via PhilPapers, Google Scholar, and SSRN.

Current Research Agenda

Ongoing multi-paper research project examining war ethics, structural violence, policing, aging, and international perspectives on U.S. governance.

Skills

Normative political theory; ethical analysis; comparative political analysis; academic research; long-form writing; APA 7th edition formatting.