

Curriculum Vitae

Paige Benton

BIBLIOGRAPHIC DETAILS:

Nationality: South African
Gender: Female
Race: White
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EDUCATION:

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Pretoria. Accepted with minor revisions to the satisfaction of the non-examining chair. The degree was conferred on 5 September 2023.

Thesis: ‘The Complementary Relation Between the Right and the Good in Justice as Fairness: Implications for Liberal Democracies’.

Supervised by: Supervisor Hennie Lötter (University of Johannesburg, South Africa) and Co-supervisor Emma Ruttkamp-Bloem (University of Pretoria, South Africa).

Examined by: Paul Weithman (University of Notre Dame, United States of America), David Reidy (University of Tennessee, United States of America), Andrius Galisanka (Wake Forest University, Lithuania).

2019 – M.A., Philosophy, University of Pretoria, Cum Laude.

Thesis: ‘Justice as Fairness: The Methodological Tension between the Right and the Good’.
Supervised by: Supervisor Emma Ruttkamp-Bloem and Co-supervisor Hennie Lötter.

Examiners: Darrel Moellendorf (Goethe University, Germany) and Vasti Roodt (Stellenbosch University, South Africa). I received 85% from Moellendorf and 77 % from Roodt.

2015 – B.A. Hon., Philosophy, University of Pretoria, Cum Laude.

2014 – B.A., Subjects: Philosophy/History/Ancient Cultures, University of Pretoria, Cum Laude.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS:

Areas of specialization:

Political Philosophy, Liberalism, John Rawls, Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, Political Epistemology.

Areas of competence:

Professional/Business Ethics, Feminist Ethics, AI epistemology, Western Moral and Political Philosophy, Western Communitarianism, Afro Communitarianism, Critical Theory, and Value Theory.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Academic Appointments:

2024; Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, ACEPS, University of Johannesburg

2023; Temporary Lecturer: Fil 712 John Rawls and Reasonable Pluralism, Department of Philosophy, University of Pretoria.

2019 – Present; Temporary Lecturer: BPE 211 Professional Ethics for Accountants and Auditors, Department of Philosophy, University of Pretoria.

2019 – 2023; Exam Marker: PLS1502 Introduction to African Philosophy & PLS 3703 Advanced African Philosophy, Philosophy, Practical and Systematic Theology, UNISA.

2019 – 2023; Online Tutor: PLS1052 Introduction to African Philosophy; Philosophy, Practical and Systematic Theology, UNISA.

2018; Temporary Lecturer: FIL 251 Introduction to Moral Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, University of Pretoria.

2014 – 2018; Tutor: Philosophy Department, University of Pretoria.

2016 – 2018; Exam Marker: FIL 110: Philosophy of Science, FIL 120: Moral Philosophy, FIL 220: Political Philosophy; FIL 310: Self and Subjectivity; FIL 320: African Philosophy; FIL 251: Introduction to Moral Philosophy; Department of Philosophy, University of Pretoria.

2015; Tutor: Ancient Cultures Department, University of Pretoria.

AWARDS:

2024-2025; I was awarded the University of Johannesburg's Global Excellence Stature Fellowship 4.0.

2022; Scholarship for Margaret Attwood learning protect; 'Practical Utopias; Exploration of the Possible'. *

*This was a competitive learning experience as only 200 individuals from academia, industry, and government were accepted. I was the only successful candidate from Africa.

2019 – 2022; I have been the recipient of a full scholarship from the CAIR (Center for Artificial Intelligence Research) node of the CSIR since 2019.

2013; I was awarded membership in the Golden Key International Honour Society.

PUBLICATIONS:

PUBLISHED:

Benton, P. (2023). AI Literacy: A Primary Good. In: Pillay, A., Jembere, E., J. Gerber, A. (eds) Artificial Intelligence Research. SACAIR 2023. Communications in Computer and Information Science, vol 1976. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-49002-6_3

Benton, P. (2022) Why Moral Agreement is Not Enough to Address Algorithmic Structural Bias. In: Jembere E., Gerber A.J., Viriri S., Pillay A. (eds) Proceedings of the Second Southern African Conference for Artificial Intelligence Research, pp. 323-334. ISBN: 978-0-620-94410-6

UNDER REVIEW:

The Harms of Social Media for Public Reason, co-authoring with Michael Schmidt from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT).

IN PROGRESS:

AI Knowledge-making Powers: A Threat to Rawlsian Justice

AI and Democracy: Justification of a Broad View of Public Reason

Reconceptualizing the Relationship Between 'the Right' and 'the Good'.

PROFESSIONAL TALKS, PRESENTATIONS, AND CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES:

FORTHCOMING:

27-28 Jun 2024, “AI and Democracy: Justification of a Broad View of Public Reason”, 2024 Africa Just AI Conference themed “Building a Just AI Ecosystem in Africa” @ Research ICT Africa, Cape Town

8-10 July 2024, “AI Knowledge-making Powers: A Threat to Rawlsian Justice” at TILTING Perspectives Conference 2024 “Looking back, moving forward: Re-assessing technology regulation in digitalized worlds”. Tilburg University, Netherlands.

INTERNATIONAL:

2023, 4-8 December – ‘AI Literacy: A Primary Good’; SACAIR, 21 Degrees South, Muldersdrift Johannesburg South Africa.

2023, September – ‘The Harms of Social Media for Public Reason’; European Consortium for Political Research, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic, co-authored with Michael Schmidt from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT).

2023, April – ‘The Harms of Social Media for Public Reason’; The Forum on Philosophy, Engineering & Technology (fPET); Delf, Netherlands, co-authored with Michael Schmidt from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT).

2022, October – ‘The Priority of the Good in Political Liberalism’; The Right and the Good in John Rawls's Theory of Justice; University of Pretoria, South Africa.

2022, May – ‘Moral Prescription and the Dissolution of Comprehensive Moral Doctrines’; Reflective Equilibrium 51 years after A Theory of Justice; University of Bern, Switzerland. *

*Participation was highly competitive: Keynote Speaker: Catherine Elgin (Harvard University) – world-leading scholar in Epistemology.

2021, December – ‘Why Moral Agreement is not enough to address Algorithmic Structural Bias’; Southern African Conference for Artificial Intelligence Research (SACAIR); Durban, South Africa.

2021, November – ‘Justice as Fairness: The Priority of ‘the Right’ and the Place of ‘the Good’; After Justice: John Rawls’s legacy in the 21st Centenary; University of Bucharest, Romania. *

* Participation was competitive: Keynote Speakers: Katrina Forrester (Harvard University); Rex Martin (University of Kansas); Bruce Haddock (Cardiff University); Peri Roberts (Cardiff University); Catherine Audard (London School of Economics). Round Table with Thomas Pogge (Yale University).

NATIONAL:

2024, 17-19 January – ‘A Rawlsian Argument for the Need for the Ordination of Women in the Catholic Church’, PSSA 2024 conference, at the University of Stellenbosch, Cape Town, South Africa.

2024, 16 January – ‘Do Echo Chambers and Cults Pose the Same Threat to Liberal Societies?’, AI4SocietySymposium: AI and Agency, hosted by CAIR theme AI at the University of Stellenbosch, Cape Town, South Africa.

2023, May – ‘Rawls: Justice and the Family’; The Philosophical Society of the University of Pretoria.

2022, October – ‘Critical Thinking for Accountants and Auditors’; Critical Thinking Workshop; University of Pretoria, South Africa.

2021, September – ‘The Role of Philosophy and Critical Thinking in the CA programme’; The South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) forum for Community of Best Practices (COBP), South Africa.*

*I was an invited speaker for the panel.

2021, October – ‘The Symbiotic Relationship Between ‘the Right’ and ‘the Good’ and its implications for Algorithmic Structural Bias in the Ethics of AI’; University of Pretoria Post-Graduate Symposium.

2019, September – ‘A.I and the Social Good’. 4th Research Symposium for the Centre for Artificial Intelligence, Standard Bank, Johannesburg, South Africa.

2019, March – ‘John Rawls and the Priority of the Right Implications on Family Life’; Post-Graduate Philosophical Association of South Africa; University of Johannesburg, South Africa.

2019, January – ‘Justice as Fairness is not a Clear Case of the Priority of the Right’; Philosophical Society of Southern Africa; University of Pretoria, South Africa.

2018, July – ‘The Legacy of Kantian Constructivism in Political Liberalism’; Post-Graduate Philosophical Association of South Africa, University of Pretoria, South Africa.

ADMINISTRATION:**POSITIONS:**

2021 – 2022, Post-Graduate representative in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Pretoria.

EVENTS I HAVE ORGANISED:

2022, ‘The Right and the Good in John Rawls’s Theory of Justice’; funded by the Centre for Artificial Intelligence Research (CAIR); University of Pretoria. Keynote: David Reidy.

2018, ‘Decolonization and Alterity: Intersecting Theories and Praxis’; Post-Graduate Philosophical Association of South Africa, University of Pretoria.

ACADEMIC CITIZENSHIP:

2024, part of the programme committee for the fPET (forum on Philosophy, Engineering, and Technology), hosted by Karlsruhe Institute of Technology: <https://www.fpet2024.org/56.php>

2023, External Moderator for course STM8X14: History and Philosophy of Management, College of Business and Economics, University of Johannesburg.

Present– 2022, Reviewer for the South African Journal of Philosophy.

2024 –2020, External Moderator for course ADIA 005: Accountancy Ethics. Department of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg.
