

C.J. Oswald

Curriculum Vitae

May 2026

Department of Philosophy, University of Virginia
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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Areas of Specialization: Social & Political Philosophy, Ethics (esp. Citizenship and Media Ethics), Epistemology (esp. Social and Political Epistemology)

Areas of Competence: Social Metaphysics, Metaethics, Philosophy of Language

EDUCATION

Graduate: University of Virginia, Ph.D. in Philosophy (Expected Jul/Aug 2026)
Dissertation: *A Confused Clamor: On (Fake) News and Journalism*
Committee: Elizabeth Barnes (Supervisor), Nate Adams, Brie Gertler

Western Michigan University, M.A. in Philosophy (2018-2020)
Concentration: Metaphysics and Philosophy of Mind
WMU Signature Certificate: Teaching and Student Success

Undergraduate: Alma College, B.A. in Philosophy, *summa cum laude* with honors (2013-2017)
Thesis: "Phenomenal Experiences"
Committee: Nicholas Dixon (Supervisor), Stanley Brian Stratton, Ken Marable

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles: "Fake News & Bad Science Journalism: The Case Against Insincerity"
Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy, 2025, 68 (10): 3748-3779
<https://doi.org/10.1080/0020174X.2024.2399253>

AWARDS AND HONORS

Honors/Fellowships: University of Virginia
Lisa A. Smith Graduate Fellowship, AY 2025-2026. Honorary recognition of outstanding academic achievement and promise in field of study

Awards: Western Michigan University
All-University Graduate Student Teaching Effectiveness Award, 2020

MEDIA COVERAGE

- Research & Outreach:* “Charlottesville library hosts event to help voters spot misinformation”
Gabby Womack, *WVIR* 29, September 29, 2024, [Charlottesville library hosts event to help voters spot misinformation](#)
- Teaching:* “Philosophy Class Tackles Question of Fake News”
Matt Kelly, *UVA Today*, August 8, 2023, [Philosophy Class Tackles Question of Fake News \(virginia.edu\)](#)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Refereed Talks:* “News is More than Its Aims”
Philosophy of Journalism Workshop, University of Rochester, November 2025
- “Is *Last Week Tonight* News? Toward a Functional Account of News and Journalism”
International Society for Social Ontology, July 2024
- “Being Realistic about Metaethics”
American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, April 2021 (Rescheduled from cancelled 2020 meeting)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- As Primary Instructor:* Business Ethics
WMU, PHIL-3140: Spring 2020 (1 Section)
- Fake News & Philosophy
UVA, PHIL-1510: Summer Session III 2023 (1 Section)
- Forms of Reasoning
UVA, PHIL-1410: Spring 2026 (1 Section)
- Introduction to Philosophy
WMU, PHIL-2000: Spring 2020 (1 Section), Fall 2019 (2 Sections), Summer I 2019 (Online Asynchronous, 1 section)
- What’s Good Citizenship?
UVA, PHIL-1510 Summer Session II 2025 (Online Synchronous, 1 Section)
- As Teaching Assistant:* Human Nature
UVA, PHIL-1710: Spring 2022 (Instructor: Harold Langsam)
- Introduction to Africana Philosophy
UVA, PHIL-2500: Fall 2022 (Instructor: Kimberly Harris)

Introduction to Ethics

WMU, PHIL-2010: Fall 2018 (Instructor: Charlie Kurth), Spring 2019
(Instructor: James Martin)

Introduction to Philosophy

UVA, PHIL-1000: Fall 2021 (Instructor: Jorge Secada)

Past, Present, and Future of Human Kind

UVA, PHIL-2500/ANTH-2559: January 2021 (Instructors: Erin Eaker &
Rachel Most)

Philosophical Problems in Law

UVA, PHIL-2060: Spring 2023 (Instructor: Nate Adams)

Philosophy of Health & Healthcare

UVA, PHIL-2828: Fall 2025, Fall 2024 (Instructor: Elizabeth Barnes)

Rational Choice & Happiness

UVA, PHIL-2640: Spring 2025 (Instructor: Elizabeth Barnes)

As Tutor/Consultant:

Writing Center Consultant

UVA, Fall 2021-Fall 2024 (Supervisors: Clare Chantell & Kevin Smith)

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

“*” Indicates Audited

Value Theory:

Conceptions of Practical Thought*

UVA, Talbot Brewer, Fall 2021

Fellow Feelings

WMU, Ashley Atkins, Spring 2020

Free Will and Moral Responsibility

UVA, Brie Gertler, Fall 2020

Norms of Attention in an Age of Distraction*

UVA, Zac Irving, Fall 2023

Metaethics: Varieties of Realism

WMU, Charlie Kurth, Spring 2019

State Legitimacy

UVA, Nate Adams, Spring 2021

Testimony, Advice, and Moral Wisdom*

UVA, Rebecca Stangl Fall 2023

The Virtues and Vices: Contested and Otherwise

UVA, Rebecca Stangl, Spring 2021

*Metaphysics, Epistemology,
Mind, & Language:*

Charles Taylor's *The Language Animal*

WMU, Ashley Atkins, Summer 2020 (Independent Study)

Contemporary Epistemology of Perception
 UVA, Harold Langsam, Spring 2021
 Feminist Philosophy: Gender, Self-Knowledge, and Phenomenology
 WMU, Ashley Atkins, Summer 2019 (Independent Study)
 Material Objects
 UVA, Trenton Merricks, Fall 2020
 Metaphysics: Truthmakers, Persistence, and Time
 WMU, Dan Dolson, Spring 2019
 Philosophy of Cognitive Science*
 WMU, Charlie Kurth, Spring 2020
 Philosophy of Emotion
 WMU, Charlie Kurth, Fall 2018
 Theory of Knowledge
 WMU, Marc Alspector-Kelly, Spring 2020
 Transparency and Self-Knowledge
 WMU, Ashley Atkins, Fall 2018
 Vagueness
 UVA, Trenton Merricks, Fall 2021

History:

Aristotle's Epistemic Psychology
 UVA, Ian McCready-Flora, Fall 2020
 Topics in Early Modern Philosophy: Expanding the Canon
 UVA, Atonia LoLordo, Spring 2022
 Political Philosophy: The State in Modern European Thought
 Emily Hauptmann, Fall 2019
 (Held by Politics Department)

Methods & Pedagogy:

Philosophical Applications of Logic
 WMU, James Martin, Fall 2019
 Philosophies of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education
 UVA, Adrianna Streifer, Fall 2022
 (Held by Center for Teaching Excellence)
 Teaching Philosophy
 WMU, Fritz Alhoff and Dave Paul, Spring 2019

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & SERVICE

Current Memberships: International Social Ontology Society
 Member

Past Memberships: University of Virginia's Society of Fellows
 Junior Fellow, 2022-2023 Academic Year (Sponsor: Brie Gertler)

Service Positions: *The Hilltop Review* (WMU Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Journal)

Editorial Board Member & Copy Editor, Spring 2019-Spring 2020

Journal Referee:

Pacific Philosophical Quarterly

The Hilltop Review, WMU Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Journal

Fall 2018, Spring 2019, and Spring 2019 Issues

Outreach & Other Service:

Community Dialogue: Fact, Fiction, or Something In Between? Navigating Misinformation in an Election

Speaker, September 2024 (Hosted by The League of Women Voters of the Charlottesville Area and Charlottesville-Albemarle NAACP)

UVA's Center for Teaching Excellence, Teaching as a Graduate Student

Discussion Facilitator, Fall 2023

WMU Lyceum, High School Philosophy Summer Camp

Organizer for 4th iteration, Fall 2019-Spring 2020 (Cancelled due to COVID-19 Pandemic)

Organizer & Facilitator for 3rd iteration, June 2019

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Teaching:

UVA Center for Teaching Excellence,

- Avoiding AI: Strategies for Keeping AI (Mostly) Out of Your Course, Workshop Participant, Spring 2026
- Let's Get Affective: An Introduction to Emotions in Teaching & Learning, Workshop Participant, Spring 2023
- Teaching as a Graduate Student, Workshop Participant, Fall 2021

WMU Office of Faculty Development

- Teaching Writing in Your Discipline, Workshop Participant, Fall 2019
- Teaching Inclusivity, Workshop Participant, Fall 2019
- Western CARES: Assisting Students in Distress, Workshop Participant, Fall 2019

WMU Signature P.E.A.K Experience: Teaching & Student Excellence

- Curriculum Design and Development: Business Ethics, Personal Capstone Project, Fall 2019

WMU Graduate Student Teaching Institute

- Yearlong Graduate Student Teaching Intensive, Participant, AY 2019-2020
- Weeklong Graduate Student Teaching Intensive, Participant, July 2019

REFERENCES

ELIZABETH BARNES

Professor of Philosophy

University of Virginia

e.j.barnes@virginia.edu

NATE ADAMS

Assistant Professor of Philosophy & Director of

Graduate Studies

University of Virginia

npadams@virginia.edu

BRIE GERTLER

Commonwealth Professor of Philosophy,

Interim Executive Vice President and Provost

University of Virginia

gertler@virginia.edu