

# MICHAEL DEIGAN

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## AREAS

Specialization: Epistemology, Ethics, Language  
Competence: Logic, Metaethics, Metaphysics, Mind, Early Modern

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## EMPLOYMENT

Rutgers University Fall 2020–  
Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow

Wesleyan University Spring 2020  
Visiting Instructor in Philosophy

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## EDUCATION

Yale University 2020  
Ph. D in Philosophy  
Dissertation: *On the Epistemology of Concepts*  
Committee: Zoltán Gendler Szabó (chair), Keith DeRose, Daniel Greco, Jason Stanley

Oxford University 2015  
B. Phil. in Philosophy (with Distinction)  
Thesis: *Objective Value and Practical Rationality* (Advisor: Ralf Bader)  
Supervisions: Ethics (Alison Hills), Metaphysics (Timothy Williamson)

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill 2013  
B. A. in Philosophy (with Highest Honors) & Linguistics  
Thesis: *Slurs and Conventional Implicature* (Advisor: Dorit Bar-On)

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## PUBLICATIONS

Stupefying forthcoming  
*Philosophers' Imprint*

Offsetting Harm forthcoming\*  
*Oxford Studies in Normative Ethics*  
\*(pending vetting process after presentation at WiNE 2021)

A Plea for Inexact Truthmaking <i>Linguistics and Philosophy</i> doi.org/10.1007/s10988-019-09279-2	2020
Counterfactual Donkeys Don't Get High <i>Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 22</i>	2018
Counterfactual Double Lives <i>Proceedings of the 21<sup>st</sup> Amsterdam Colloquium</i>	2017

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**MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW**

Don't Trust Fodor's Guide in Monte Carlo [R&R]  
 Bad Concepts, Bilateral Contents  
 Questions Should Have Answers

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**SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

\* indicates invited

Offsetting Harm 2021 Workshop in Normative Ethics, University of Arizona	January 2021
Bad Concepts, Bilateral Contents *Discourse in Philosophy Colloquium, ILLC, University of Amsterdam	November 2020
Surprise as an Epistemic Emotion (with Juan S. Piñeros Glasscock) Surprise: An Interdisciplinary Workshop, Hebrew University of Jerusalem	June 2020
Having a Concept has a Cost 2020 Eastern APA (symposium), Philadelphia	January 2020
Partiality and Objective Value Formal Ethics 2019, Ghent University	June 2019
2019 Pacific APA (colloquium), Vancouver	April 2019
Austin Graduate Ethics and Normativity Talks, UT-Austin	November 2018
19 <sup>th</sup> Annual Oxford Philosophy Graduate Conference	November 2015
Stupefying ECOM "Communication, Context, Conversation" Workshop, UConn	May 2019
A Plea for Inexact Truthmaking NASSLLI 2018 (poster), Carnegie Mellon	June 2018
Hyperintensional Logics and Semantics Workshop, Ghent University	December 2017
Counterfactual Double Lives 21 <sup>st</sup> Amsterdam Colloquium	December, 2017
Counterfactual Donkeys Don't Get High Sinn und Bedeutung 22, Potsdam	September 2017

- \*Comments on Kit Fine’s “Compliance and Command”  
 2015 Yale Philosophy Graduate Conference March 2015
- \*Comments on Danny Fox’s “Children Interpret Disjunction as Conjunction”  
 Mind, Logic and Language Workshop, Hebrew University of Jerusalem May 2013

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**TEACHING**

Rutgers University:

- Minds, Machines, and Persons – PHIL 329 Spring 2021  
 Intro to Philosophy of Science – PHIL 225 Spring 2021

Wesleyan University:

- Theory of Knowledge – PHIL 292 Spring 2020

Yale University, as Teaching Fellow:

- Modern Philosophy from Descartes to Kant – PHIL 126b Spring 2019  
 (under Michael Della Rocca)
- Moral Skepticism – PHIL 174 Fall 2018  
 (under Shelly Kagan)
- Propaganda, Ideology, and Democracy – PHIL 177/AFAM 198/ Spring 2018  
 (under Jason Stanley) CGSC 267/EDST 177b/EP&E 494b
- First-Order Logic – PHIL 117 Fall 2017  
 (under Kenneth Winkler)

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**SERVICE**

Reviewing

Swiss National Science Foundation, *Noûs*, Yale Philosophy Graduate Conferences, Oxford Philosophy Graduate Conferences

Academic Organizing

- Half-Baked Ideas founder and organizer (2018–2020)  
 (informal grad student WIP meetings, with baked goods)
- Conceptual Ethics Reading Group organizer (2019)
- ELLM City Working Group organizer (2018); co-organizer (2017, 2019–2020)
- Yale Semantics Reading Group organizer (Fall 2017–2018); co-organizer (2019)
- Yale Philosophy Graduate Conference co-organizer (2016, 2017)
- Stalnaker Reading Group organizer (2015)
- Oxford Philosophy Graduate Conference co-organizer (2014)

## Departmental Service

Graduate Representative (2019)  
Teaching Representative (2018)  
Prospective Students Committee (2016, 2017)

## Outreach

Connecticut High School Ethics Bowl judge (2018, 2020)

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## HONORS & AWARDS

### Research Fellowships

Fellow - Centre for Advanced Studies "Human Abilities" (HU/FU Berlin)	summer 2021
William Henry Hurlbut Scholarship (Yale dissertation fellowship)	2019–2020
Clarendon Scholarship (Oxford competitive merit scholarship)	2013–2015
UNC Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (\$3,000)	2012

### Travel Grants

APA Graduate Travel Stipend (2020, 2019); Yale Conference Travel Fund Award (2019);  
NASSLLI Scholarship (2012); Leshner Educational Opportunity Fund (2012)

### Honors

Phi Beta Kappa	2012
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## OTHER

### Research Assistant

Expression, Communication, and the Origins of Meaning Group PI: Dorit Bar-On	2011–2013
UNC Language, Cognition, Brain Lab PI: Peter C. Gordon	2010–2013

(programming in MATLAB, Perl, Python; independent research on (i) use of eye-tracking for correcting ocular ERP artifacts, (ii) Broad Autism Phenotype, using methods from distributional semantics)

### Summer schools in Language, Logic, and Information

NASSLLI	2012, '14, '16, '18
ESSLLI	2013, '14, '15

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## REFERENCES

Zoltán Gendler Szabó  
John S. Saden Professor of Philosophy  
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Daniel Greco  
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Lucas Champollion  
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Stephen Darwall  
Andrew Downey Orrick Professor of Philosophy  
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Michael Della Rocca (teaching reference)  
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