

# 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)  
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

Bad Concepts, Bilateral Contents forthcoming  
*Ergo*  
Don't Trust Fodor's Guide in Monte Carlo:  
Learning Concepts by Hypothesis Testing without Circularity forthcoming  
*Mind & Language*  
Stupefying forthcoming  
*Philosophers' Imprint*

Offsetting Harm <i>Oxford Studies in Normative Ethics</i> *(pending final vetting process)	forthcoming*
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

Questions Should Have Answers (R&R at *Noûs*)  
 Having a Concept Has a Cost  
 Conceptual Quarantine

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### SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

\* indicates invited

Wondering is Wanting to Know *Language Workshop at the Dianoia Institute of Philosophy, ACU	May 2021
Okay, Whatever *New York Philosophy of Language Workshop	April 2021
Conceptual Quarantine *Ignorance, Confusion, and Distraction Graduate Seminar, U. Tennessee	April 2021
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
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### Yale University, as Teaching Fellow:

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

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## SERVICE

### Reviewing

*Ergo*, *Inquiry*, *Minds and Machines*, *Noûs*, *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, Swiss National Science Foundation

## Academic Organizing

Half-Baked Ideas (informal grad student WIP meetings, with baked goods)	founder and organizer (2018–2020)
Conceptual Ethics Reading Group	organizer (2019)
ELMM 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); NASSSLI Scholarship (2012); Leshner Educational Opportunity Fund (2012)
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### 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 (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)	2010–2013

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

Yale University

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Daniel Greco

Associate Professor of Philosophy

Yale University

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Shelly Kagan

Clark Professor of Philosophy

Yale University

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Stephen Darwall

Andrew Downey Orrick Professor of Philosophy

Yale University

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Lucas Champollion

Associate Professor of Linguistics

New York University

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Michael Della Rocca (teaching reference)

Andrew Downey Orrick Professor of Philosophy

Yale University

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