

J. Spencer Atkins

Curriculum vitae

Binghamton University
Philosophy Department
4400 Vestal Parkway East
Binghamton, NY 13902

Phone: 901-258-7430
Email: jatkins4@binghamton.edu
Websites: jspenceratkins.weebly.com
PhilPeople

Areas of Specialization: Ethics, Social Epistemology, Environmental Philosophy

Areas of Competency: Philosophy of Religion, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Law

EDUCATION

Binghamton University – Ph.D. in Philosophy, expected 2024

University of Tennessee, Knoxville – MA in Philosophy, 2020

University of Tennessee, Martin – BA in Philosophy and English, *Summa Cum Laude* 2017

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Instructor

Dyersburg State Community College, February 2021 – Present.

Fitchburg State University, August 2022 – Present.

State University of New York, Plattsburg, January 2023 – Present.

Colorado State University, Pueblo, January 2023 – Present.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

“Species’ Wellbeing, Counterfactual Comparative Harm, and the Non-Identity Problem,”
forthcoming in [Dialogos](#).

“Making Punishment Safe: Adding an Anti-Luck Condition to Retributivism and Rights
Forfeiture,” forthcoming in [Law, Ethics, and Philosophy](#).

“Defining Wokeness,” [Social Epistemology](#) 37, 3 (2023): 321-338.

Target Response: Davidson, Lacey J. “The Scope of Woke: A Reply to Atkins.”
[Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective](#) 12, 4 (2023): 16–21.

“Moral Encroachment, Wokeness, and the Epistemology of Holding,” [Episteme](#) 20, 3
(2023): 86-100.

“Epistemic Norms, the False Belief Requirement, and Love,” [Logos & Episteme](#) XII, 3
(2021): 287-306.

“Have You Benefited from Carbon Emissions? You May Be a ‘Morally Objectionable
Free Rider,’” [Environmental Ethics](#) 40, 3 (2018): 283-296.

Public-Facing Articles

[Invited] “Defending Wokeness: A Reply to Davidson,” [Social Epistemology Review and
Reply Collective](#) 12 (2023): 21-26.

“Why Is It Wrong to Break Skateboarders’ Legs?” in [Better Call Saul and Philosophy](#), eds. J. Heter and B. Coppenger. (2022): 198-209.

Commentary Paper

“Carbon Pricing and the Beneficiary Pays Principle: Framing Market Based Incentives Around Compensation Obligations,” [Ethics, Policy, and Environment](#) 22 (2): 148-150 (2019).

Commentary of Alexandre Gajevic Sayegh, “Pricing Carbon for Climate Justice”

Philosophical Book Reviews

Review of *Making Things Up*. By Karen Bennett. “Going up?” [Metascience](#), January 2019.

Review of *Abundant Earth: Toward an Ecological Civilization*. By Eileen Crist, [Environmental Ethics](#) 41(2): 189-192 (2019).

Review of *Atonement*. By Eleonore Stump, [Theological Studies](#) 80 (3): 725-726 (2019).

Review of *Toward the Ethics of a Green Future: The Theory and Practice of Human Rights for Future Persons*. Eds. Marcus Düwell, Gerhard Bos, and Naomi Van Steenberg, [Environmental Values](#) 28 (4): 510-512 (2019).

Literary Article

“On Tolkien’s Presentation of Distributism Through the Shire,” [Mallorn](#), 58 (3): 14-23 (2017).

WORK IN PROGRESS

“[Doxastic Wronging and Rights](#)” (R&R)

“[A Solution to the Value-Reflecting Reasons Problem for Moral Encroachment](#)”
(Under Review)

“[Moral Encroachment as Interest-Dependent Contextualism](#)”

“[Meaningfulness Encroachment, Moral Encroachment, and Diminishment](#)” (Under Review)

PRESENTATIONS

Meaningfulness Encroachment, Moral Encroachment, and Diminishment [[Slides](#)]

International Conference on Philosophy and Meaning in Life

Sendai, Japan, 2023

[Invited] *Moral Encroachment: Does Knowledge Require Moral Goodness?* [[Slides](#)]

Colorado State University, Pueblo Department Colloquium, 2023

Moral Encroachment as Interest-Dependent Contextualism [[Slides](#)]

Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy

“Epistemic Justification: Formal Epistemology Meets Mainstream
Epistemology” Munich, Germany, 2023

Philosophy in the Ozarks Graduate Conference

“Perspectives in Social Epistemology and Philosophy of Language,” 2023

Wokeness: The Partiality View [[Slides](#)]

“Virtuous and Vicious Partiality: A Christopher Newport University Ethics
Conference,” 2022

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Graduate Philosophy Conference, 2021

Defining Wokeness

Meeting of the North American Society for Social Philosophy, 2021

Ryerson Philosophy Graduate Student Conference, “Society, Community, Collectives” 2020

Bowling Green State University Graduate Workshop in Applied Philosophy, 2020

COVID-19, Economic Roles, and the Crisis of Identity (with Robert Austin Kippes)

Binghamton University Graduate Colloquium, 2021

Eternity, Climate Change, and the God of Classical Theism: Grounding a Responsibility to Reduce Carbon Emissions for Theists

Meeting of American Maritain Association, 2019

Midsouth Philosophy Conference, 2019

Recognition at the Dinner Table: Recognitionworthiness and the Consumption of Animals

Conference of the University of Kentucky Graduate Student Association, 2019

Have You Benefited from Carbon Emissions? You May Be a Morally Objectionable Free Rider

Concerned Philosophers for Peace, 2018

On Dante’s Presentation of the Atonement: Reflections on Canto VII of Paradiso

Mythcon, 2017

COMMENTARY

Marshall Naylor, “Precision in the Mind of God”

43rd Midsouth Philosophy Conference Memphis, TN March 22-23, 2019

AWARDS

Binghamton University: Dissertation Assistantship 2024

Binghamton University: Graduate Student Excellence Award in Research 2023

Graduate Student Organization Travel Funding Recipient 2022

John Hardwig Award for Graduate Teaching Excellence 2019

Summer Research Assistantship Recipient, University of Tennessee Faculty Senate 2019

Fellowship Recipient, University of Tennessee Graduate School 2018—2020

TEACHING

Binghamton University, Primary Instructor

1. Special Topics: The Ethics of Belief (Upper Division) Winter 2023

2. [Methods of Reasoning](#) Summer 2023

3. [Intro to Ethics](#) Fall 2022

4. [Logic](#) Summer 2022

Colorado State University, Pueblo, Primary Instructor

1. Critical Thinking Fall 2023

2. Classics in Ethics Summer 2023

3. Philosophy and Literature Summer 2023

4. Intro to Logic Spring 2023

5. Classics in Ethics Spring 2023

6. Philosophy and Literature Spring 2023

7. Islam and Non-Western Philosophy Spring 2023

SUNY Plattsburgh, Primary Instructor

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| 1. Environmental Ethics (Upper Division) | Spring 2024 |
| 2. Food Justice (Upper Division) | Fall 2023 |
| 3. Logic | Spring 2023 |

Fitchburg State University, Primary Instructor

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| 1. Philosophy of Human Nature | Summer 2023 |
| 2. Social and Political Philosophy (Upper Division) | Spring 2023 |
| 3. Medical Ethics | Spring 2023 |
| 4. Contemporary Ethical Problems | Spring 2023 |
| 5. Medical Ethics | Fall 2022 |
| 6. Medical Ethics | Fall 2022 |
| 7. Contemporary Ethical Problems | Fall 2022 |

Dyersburg State Community College, Primary Instructor

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| 1. Intro to Philosophy (Topical) | Summer 2023 |
| 2. Intro to Philosophy (Topical) | Fall 2022 |
| 3. Intro to Philosophy (Topical) | Summer 2022 |
| 4. Intro to Philosophy (Topical) | Spring 2022 |
| 5. Intro to Philosophy (Topical) | Spring 2022 |
| 6. Intro to Philosophy (Topical) | Summer 2021 |

Binghamton University, Graduate Teaching Assistant

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| 1. Methods of Reasoning (Critical Thinking), Casey Doyle | Spring 2023 |
| 2. Medical Ethics, Anja Karnein | Spring 2022 |
| 3. Law and Justice, Charles Goodman | Fall 2021 |
| Served as Head Teaching Assistant | |
| 4. Intro to Asian Philosophy, Charles Goodman (Online) | Spring 2021 |
| 5. Law and Justice, Charles Goodman | Fall 2020 |

Oak Ridge Institute for Continued Learning, Primary Instructor

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| 1. Death, Suffering, and Evil: The Problem of Evil | Summer 2019 |
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University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Graduate Teaching Assistant

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| 1. Contemporary Moral Problems, Alex Feldt | Spring 2020 |
| 2. Intro to Philosophy (Topical), Kristina Gehrman | Fall 2019 |
| 3. Contemporary Moral Problems, Alex Feldt | Spring 2019 |
| 4. Contemporary Moral Problems, Alex Feldt | Fall 2018 |

SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION

Cologne Summer School in Philosophy: "Experts, Epistemic Authority, and the Limits of Autonomy"	Summer 2021
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CERTIFICATIONS/WORKSHOPS

D2L Certification, Dyersburg State Community College	Spring 2021
Best Practices in Publishing, University of Tennessee	Spring 2020
Best Practices in Teaching, University of Tennessee	Spring 2019

SERVICE TO PHILOSOPHY

Referee work: *Synthese* (x4); *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*; *Erkenntnis*; *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, *Asian Journal of Philosophy*

Committee Member: Graduate Committee for Full Professorship of Christopher
Morgan-Knapp
Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Assistant Editor

Spring 2017

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Philosophical Association
Concerned Philosophers for Peace
Inquiry Network

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Ethics, Social/Political Philosophy, Phil. Of Law

Ethics and Economic Life (Christopher Morgan-Knapp)
Social and Political Theory (Anthony Reeves)
Philosophy of Criminal Law (Anthony Reeves)
Buddhist Ethics (Charles Goodman)
Contemporary Ethics (Lisa Tessman)
Love and Friendship (Mattias Iser)
Moral Sentiment (Clerk Shaw)
Animal Mind and Ethical Theory (Jon Garthoff)
Long Term Non-Anthropocentric Ethics (John Nolt)
Audit: Climate Ethics (John Nolt)

History of Philosophy

Aristotle (Clerk Shaw)
History of the Idea of Nature (Kristina Gehrman)
Audit: History of Modern Moral Philosophy (Adam Cureton)

Metaphysics and Epistemology

Social Epistemology (Georgi Gardiner)
Epistemic Dimensions of Agency (E.J. Coffman)
Independent Study (Metaphysics) (David Palmer)
Grounding (David Palmer)
Audit: Advanced Survey of Epistemology (E.J. Coffman)

Miscellaneous

Rational Choice and Decision Theory (Mariam Thalos)
Advanced Formal Logic (John Nolt)

REFERENCES

Professional References

Christopher Morgan-Knapp, Professor, Binghamton University
c.morgan-knapp@binghamton.edu
Sanford Goldberg, Northwestern University
s-goldberg@northwestern.edu
Charles Goodman, Professor, Binghamton University
cgoodman@binghamton.edu

Anthony Reeves, Assistant Professor, Binghamton University
areeves@binghamton.edu

John Nolt, Professor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
nolt@utk.edu

Teaching References

David Svolba, Associate Professor, Fitchburg State University
dsvolba@fitchburgstate.edu

Mateo Duque, Assistant Professor, Binghamton University
mduque@binghamton.edu

E.J. Coffman, Professor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
ecoffma1@utk.edu