

# Jeffrey Kaplan

Curriculum Vitae

*Current as of February 15th, 2019*

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UNC Greensboro, Department of Philosophy  
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## Employment

### **University of North Carolina, Greensboro**

2019 Assistant Professor

## Education

2018 **University of California, Berkeley** PhD, Philosophy,

Dissertation: *Weightless Normativity: A Theory of Law, Language, and More*

Committee: Hannah Ginsborg (co-chair), Niko Kolodny (co-chair), Christopher Kutz (Law)

Dissertation Abstract: Reductive theories of law and language appear to face an insurmountable obstacle: they are normative practices, and normativity cannot be explained in merely descriptive terms. I argue that this obstacle can be overcome. Law, language, and other practices are normative in a neglected sense—they do not necessarily generate reasons, but they consist of rules. Rule-constituted practices can be accounted for in descriptive terms, though with ineliminable mention of evaluative attitudes. I offer accounts of law and language along these lines.

2011 **University of Cambridge** MPhil, Philosophy

Dissertation: *The Normativity of Concepts*

Advisor: Tim Crane

2009 **Williams College** BA, *summa cum laude*, Philosophy

## Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Law, Value Theory, Philosophy of Language

## Areas of Competence

Early Modern Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind, Metaphysics, Ethics

## Publications

2017 “Attitude and the Normativity of Law”

*Law and Philosophy* 36(5): 469-493.

## Selected Fellowships and Awards

2017 Humanities Teaching Fellow, UC Berkeley

Awarded to approximately 0.1% of graduate student instructors.

- 2017 Teaching Effectiveness Award, UC Berkeley  
Awarded to approximately 0.5% of graduate student instructors.
- 2017 Townsend Dissertation Fellowship, UC Berkeley  
Awarded to six graduate students in the humanities. Funding one year of research.
- 2015 William Fink Prize in Philosophy, UC Berkeley  
Awarded for the best paper by a philosophy graduate student.
- 2015 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, UC Berkeley  
Awarded to approximately 9% of graduate student instructors.
- 2009 Dr. Herchel Smith Fellowship, University of Cambridge  
Awarded to six Williams College graduates. Funding two years of graduate work.
- 2009 John W. Miller Prize in Philosophy, Williams College  
Awarded to “the outstanding philosophy student each year.”
- 2009 Laszlo G. Versenyi Memorial Prize, Williams College  
Awarded to the best philosophy student pursuing graduate study in philosophy.
- 2009 Dewey Prize, Williams College  
Awarded by College President and Deans for “most credible oration in point of composition and delivery at the commencement exercises.”

### **Refereed Presentations**

- 2019 “The Problem with Descriptive Correctness”  
North Carolina Philosophical Society, UNC Greensboro
- 2018 “How to Make a Rule: A Defense of a Supposedly Refuted Theory”  
The 11th Biennial Collective Intentionality Conference, Tufts University
- 2017 “A Defense of the Practice Theory”  
Eastern APA Poster Session (2018), Savannah, GA  
International Social Ontology Conference, University of Cambridge  
Berkeley-London Conference, UC Berkeley
- 2016 “Against the Moral Attitude Constraint”  
Northwest Philosophy Conference, Gonzaga University
- 2012 “Prefaces, Beliefs, and Mere Acceptances”  
Berkeley-London Conference, University of London

2011 “Justified and Unjustified Love”  
Reasons of Love International Conference, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

### **Invited and Departmental Presentations**

2019 “Princess Elisabeth’s Objections to Descartes”  
Guest Lecturer, Grimsley High School IB Philosophy Problem

2018 “How to Make a Rule: A Defense of a Supposedly Refuted Theory”  
Job Talk, UNC Greensboro

2018 “Water Rights and Rule Creation”  
MIST Seminar Speaker, UC Merced

2016 “Normativity and Etiquette”  
Guest lecture in John Searle’s Philosophy of Society course

2015 “Non-Moral Norms”  
Work-in-Progress Lunch, UC Berkeley

2014 “The Internal Point of View”  
Richard Wollheim Society, UC Berkeley

2013 “Kripke and Rule Following”  
Presentation to Undergraduate Phil Forum, UC Berkeley

2013 “Descartes’s Fifth Meditation”  
Two guest lectures in Hannah Ginsborg’s Modern Philosophy course

2011 “Concepts and Empirical Psychology”  
Richard Wollheim Society, UC Berkeley

2010 “Williamson and the Supposed Primeness of Knowledge”  
Philosophy Graduate Seminar, University of Cambridge

2010 “Justified True Belief is Knowledge”  
MPhil Seminar, University of Cambridge

### **Teaching Experience**

UNC Greensboro

2019 Introduction to Ethics

2019 Philosophy of Law

UC Berkeley

2017 Individual Morality and Social Justice

San Quentin State Prison, Prison University Project

2016	Introduction to Philosophy: Mind-Body Problem
2015	Introduction to Philosophy: Metaphysics
2014	Introduction to Philosophy: Epistemology
2013	Introduction to Philosophy: Early Modern

UC Berkeley (as Graduate Student Instructor)

2017	Morality and Social Justice	Niko Kolodny
2015	Hume	Barry Stroud
2015	Philosophy of Society	John Searle
2014	Descartes	Tim Crockett
2014	Philosophy of Language	John Searle
2013	Philosophical Methods	Daniel Warren
2013	Introduction to Logic	Justin Bledin
2013	Modern Philosophy	Hannah Ginsborg
2012	Nature of Mind	John Campbell
2012	Metaphysics	Dan Gibberman

Williams College (as Teaching Assistant)

2009	Moral and Political Philosophy	Bojana Mladenovic
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**Graduate Coursework** (\* = audited)

2017	Workshop in Law, Philosophy, and Political Theory*	Josh Cohen & Chris Kutz
2016	Workshop in Law, Philosophy, and Political Theory*	Josh Cohen & Véronique Munoz-Dardé
2015	Workshop in Law, Philosophy, and Political Theory*	Josh Cohen & Sarah Song
2014	Foundations of Legal Philosophy*	Chris Kutz
2013	The Normativity of Meaning (Qualifying Exam)	Hannah Ginsborg
2013	Natural Kinds (Qualifying Exam)	John MacFarlane
2013	Reasons for Love (Qualifying Exam)	Niko Kolodny
2013	Assessment Sensitivity*	John MacFarlane
2013	Aristotle's Conception of Animal and Human Agency	Klaus Corcilius
2012	Epistemic Logic and Epistemology*	Wes Holliday
2012	Perception*	John Searle
2012	Spinoza	Tim Crockett
2012	Modal Reasoning*	Wes Holliday
2012	Judgment, Competence, and 'Practical Knowledge'*	Barry Stroud
2012	The Intentionality of Perceptual Experience	John Searle
2012	Intermediate Logic	Paolo Mancosu
2012	History of Political Philosophy	Niko Kolodny
2012	Theory of Meaning*	John Campbell
2011	Logic, Epistemology, and Natural Language	Seth Yalcin
2011	Empiricist Themes in Perception	John Campbell & Michael Martin
2011	Form & Meaning	Seth Yalcin
2011	Philosophy of Language*	John Searle

## **Service**

- 2019 Guest Lecturer and Consultant, Grimsley High School IB Philosophy Program
- 2016 Berkeley-Stanford-Davis Conference Submission Reviewer
- 2015 Graduate Student Instructor Assignment Sub-Committee
- 2013 New Crop Essay Prize Judge
- 2012 Graduate Student Representative to the Philosophy Faculty
- 2012 Prospective Graduate Student Liaison
- 2011 Co-organizer of Richard Wollheim Society