

MITCHELL BARRINGTON

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June 2026

EDUCATION

AUGUST 2023 – 2029 (EXPECTED)

PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

AUGUST 2022 – JANUARY 2023

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Completed one semester towards a Doctor of Philosophy before taking a leave of absence to accept a research fellowship at the Center for AI Safety and ultimately transferring to the University of Michigan.

JUNE 2020 – JUNE 2022

M.PHIL, AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Thesis: *Deontological Decision Theory*.

- Awarded the degree of Master of Philosophy without amendment.
- Supervised by John Hawthorne, Simon Goldstein, and Clayton Littlejohn.
- Examined by Caspar Hare and Jacob Nebel.

FEBRUARY 2019 – DECEMBER 2019

B.A. (HONS), THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Thesis: *Epistemic Degrees*.

- Awarded First Class Honours.
- Supervised by Michael Rubin.
- Examined by Miri Albahari and Stephen Hetherington.

JULY 2017 – DECEMBER 2018

B.A., THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Awarded the degree of Bachelor of Arts in philosophy.

AUGUST 2016 – MAY 2017

POINT LOMA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

Completed two semesters towards a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy.

AUGUST 2015 – MAY 2016

MIDLAND UNIVERSITY

Completed two semesters towards a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy.

FEBRUARY 2015 – JUNE 2015

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Completed one semester towards a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy.

PUBLICATIONS

2022

SUPERIORITY DISCOUNTING IMPLIES THE PREPOSTEROUS CONCLUSION, *UTILITAS*

Published online by Cambridge University Press: 15 August 2022. 43(4): 493 – 501.

2020

WHERE TRACKING LOSES TRACTION, *EPISTEME*

Published online by Cambridge University Press: 28 September 2020. 20(1): 1-14.

EMPLOYMENT

MAY 2025 – SEPTEMBER 2025

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Contributed to Professor Sarah Moss's book project on epistemic justification and grounding.

JANUARY 2023 – AUGUST 2023

RESEARCH FELLOW, CENTER FOR AI SAFETY

Seven-month research fellowship aimed at clarifying risks from advanced AI systems.

JULY 2022 – SEPTEMBER 2022

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Supervised by Christina Dietz.

SEMESTER 1, 2021

SESSIONAL ACADEMIC, AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Taught PHIL100: The Big Questions at the Australian Catholic University.

SEMESTER 1, 2020

SESSIONAL ACADEMIC, CURTIN UNIVERSITY

Taught MGMT3006: Business Ethics at Curtin University.

2018 – 2020

GUEST LECTURER, CHRIST CHURCH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Regularly invited to give lectures in various areas of philosophy.

2018 – 2020

TUTOR, SELF-EMPLOYED

Tutored high school students taking Philosophy & Ethics in Years 11 and 12.

SPRING 2017

TUTOR, POINT LOMA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL CENTER

Tutored philosophy and writing to undergraduates at Point Loma Nazarene University.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2023

WEINBERG INSTITUTE FOR COGNITIVE SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Award replaces two semesters of funding as a Graduate Student Instructor with fellowship support.

- Value: \$24,058 USD.

2022

PHILOSOPHY FELLOWSHIP, CENTER FOR AI SAFETY

Seven-month residential fellowship in San Francisco. (<https://www.safe.ai/philosophy-fellowship>)

- Value: ~\$90,000 USD

2022

PROVOST'S FELLOWSHIP, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

University-wide program that funds annually 100 outstanding Ph.D. students.

- Value: \$2,000 USD p.a.

2021

POSTGRADUATE PRESENTATION PRIZE, AUSTRALASIAN ASSOCIATION OF PHILOSOPHY

Awarded to the best paper by a postgraduate student at the 2021 Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference.

- Value: \$500 AUD.

2020

JULIUS KOVESI MEMORIAL PRIZE, THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Awarded to the student with highest mark for honours in philosophy.

- Value: \$800 AUD.

2020

J. A. WOOD MEMORIAL PRIZE SHORTLIST, THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Awarded to the most outstanding graduand for the year of those completing an honours course in the Faculty of Arts, Business, Law and Education.

2019

SIR KARL POPPER PRIZE, THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Awarded to the student with the highest mark in any Level 2 or 3 unit in the philosophy of science, social, political or moral philosophy.

- Value: \$350 AUD.

TALKS

2026

- July 5-9: **The Shape of Moral Risk**. *Australasian Association of Philosophy*. Hamilton, New Zealand.
- June 13: **Duty and Risk**. *Swedish Congress of Philosophy*. Stockholm, Sweden.
- January 7: **An Impossibility Result for Value Superiority**. *Eastern APA*. Baltimore, Maryland (comments by Pacy Yan).

2025

- November 21: **An Impossibility Result for Value Superiority**. *Pittsburgh Formal Epistemology Workshop*. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- April 19: **Duty and Risk**. *Pacific APA*. San Francisco, California. (Comments by Petra Kosonen)

2024

- October 19: **Duty and Risk**. *University of Toronto Graduate Conference*. Toronto, Canada. (Comments by Ian Campbell)
- August 11: **Duty and Risk**. *Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress*. University of Colorado, Boulder.
- July 30: **Fickleness**. *Australian National University Colloquium Series*. Canberra, Australia.
- July 17: **Duty and Risk**. *Formal Epistemology Workshop*. Australian National University. (Comments by Brian Hedden)
- July 11: **Duty and Risk**. *Australasian Association of Philosophy*. The University of Western Australia.
- March 1: **Duty and Risk**. *The Slippery Slope Normativity Summit*. Lillehammer, Norway.
- February 21: **Absolutist AI**. *Central APA*. New Orleans.

2023

- June 20: **Absolutist AI**. *Center for AI Safety*. San Francisco.

2022

- July 7: **Continuity Implies Repugnance**. *Australasian Association of Philosophy*.
- May 13: **Longshot Arguments**. *The Philosophy Society*. The University of Western Australia.
- March 29: **Longshot Arguments**. *Dianoia Graduate Conference*. Dianoia Institute of Philosophy.

2021

- September 2: **Ignoring the Improbable**. *Faculty Workshop Series*. Dianoia Institute of Philosophy.
- July 6: **Ignoring the Improbable**. *Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference* (awarded Postgraduate Presentation Prize).
- June 17: **Ignoring the Improbable**. *Graduate Workshop Series*. Dianoia Institute of Philosophy.

2019

- September 6: **Epistemic Degrees**. *The Philosophy Society*. The University of Western Australia.

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

SPRING 2026, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

- PHIL 535: **Metaphysics - Plenitude**. Maegan Fairchild. (Audit)

FALL 2025, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

- PHIL 601: **Epistemology – Grounding and Justification**. Sarah Moss. (Audit)
- PHIL 560: **Philosophy of Science**. Laura Ruetsche. (Audit)

SPRING 2025, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

- PHIL 416: **Modal Logic**. Maegan Fairchild.
- PHIL 514: **Kant**. Janum Sethi.
- PHIL 429: **Ethical Analysis – Metaethics**. Peter Railton. (Audit)

FALL 2024, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

- PHIL 622: **Aristotle's Metaphysics Gamma**. Gabriel Shapiro.
- PHIL 596: **Independent Study – Probability Theory**. James Joyce.

SPRING 2024, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

- PHIL 601: **Epistemology – Deference**. James Joyce.
- PHIL 413: **Formal Methods**. Sarah Moss.

- PHIL 417: **Logic, Computation, and Learning – Artificial Intelligence**. Gordon Belot.

FALL 2023, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

- PHIL 611: **Seminar in Current Philosophy – Keynes**. Brian Weatherson.
- PHIL 597: **Proseminar**. Maegan Fairchild.
- LAW 453: **Law and Philosophy**. Sarah Moss & Ekow Yankah. (Audit)

FALL 2022, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

- PHIL 503: **Proseminar on Value**. Jonathan Quong.
- PHIL 501: **Seminar on Recent Philosophy – Rational Choice**. Ralph Wedgwood.

TEACHING

SPRING 2026

PHIL 366: GROUPS AND CHOICES, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

- Graduate Student Instructor.
- Primary Instructor Brian Weatherson.

SPRING 2025

PHIL 366: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

- Graduate Student Instructor.
- Primary Instructor Renee Jorgensen.

FALL 2024

PHIL 343: INTRODUCTION TO RATIONAL CHOICE THEORY, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

- Graduate Student Instructor.
- Primary Instructor Jim Joyce.

SEMESTER 1, 2021

PHIL 100: THE BIG QUESTIONS, AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

- Sessional Academic.
- Primary Instructor John Quilter.

SEMESTER 1, 2020

MGMT 3006: BUSINESS ETHICS, CURTIN UNIVERSITY

- Sessional Academic.
- Primary Instructor Jacqueline Boaks.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

JUNE 2024

SUMMER PROGRAM IN LOGIC AND FORMAL EPISTEMOLOGY, CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY

Three-week full-time program for students in philosophy, mathematics, computer science, linguistics, economics, and other sciences.

SERVICE

JOURNAL REFEREEING,

Philosophical Studies, Erkenntnis.

2024 – 2026

EPISTEMOLOGY WORK-IN-PROGRESS GROUP ORGANISER, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Scheduled and ran regular meetings for faculty and graduate students presenting work in progress related to epistemology.

OCTOBER 17, 2025

GRADUATE SCHOOL APPLICATION WORKSHOP, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Participated in workshop for undergraduates at the University of Michigan applying to graduate programs in philosophy.

OCTOBER 9, 2025

FUNDING WORKSHOP, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Organised and presented workshop to PhD students at the University of Michigan on how to secure and use funding (co-organised with Malte Hendrickx).

2025 – 2026

PRINCETON-MICHIGAN NORMATIVITY WORKSHOP ORGANISER,

Organised multi-day workshop for Princeton University and University of Michigan PhD students to be held in September 2026.

SEPTEMBER 2025

PANELIST, COMPASS AT MICHIGAN

Sat on graduate student panel at Compass 2025.

OCTOBER 2024

MENTOR & PRESENTER, COMPASS AT MICHIGAN

Mentored students considering graduate school in philosophy and gave a talk to the Compass 2024 cohort.

MARCH 25, 2024

PANELIST, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

Sat on “What is It Like to be a Philosophy Graduate Student?” panel.

MARCH 19, 2024

PANELIST, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Sat on a panel providing advice on how to apply to PhD programs.

SEPTEMBER 2023

MENTOR & PANELIST, COMPASS AT MICHIGAN

Mentored students considering graduate school in philosophy and sat on a graduate student panel.

2022 – 2024

MINORITIES AND PHILOSOPHY MENTOR, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Provided advice on graduate school applications.